FBIS DAILY REPORT

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QUITO DECLARATION SETS FORTH ECONOMIC GOALS

PA181958 Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 14 Jan 84 pp 1, 10-A, 18-A

["Text" of the Quito Delcaration, signed by Argentina, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Chile, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, the Dominican Republic, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay, and Venezuela at the Latin American Economic Conference in Quito on 13 January]

[Text] 1. We reaffirm the brotherhood and solidarity of our peoples and their desire to live within the framework of democratic principles, and we reiterate our unity within diversity and our respect for the sovereign right of all nations of Latin America and the Caribbean to walk their own economic, social, and political paths in peace and freedom, without any kind of foreign intervention, rejecting discriminatory or coercive economic measures that are politically motivated, and guaranteeing the full exercise of human rights and the benefits of progress to all their inhabitants, in an atmosphere free of pressures, threats, and foreign aggression.

2. We reiterate our commitment to the definite elimination of the threat or use of force in resolving international conflicts. We insist on our call for disarmament, which will permit the reallocation of resources that are being squandered in the arms race and on armaments to objectives that will contribute to the development of all of the world's peoples. The problems of peace and development have a special link, because without peace, development cannot be achieved, and without development, peace will always be precarious.

3. We express our concern over the growing tensions that prevail in international relations and the already involve many parts of the world, constituting a serious threat to world peace. Latin America and the Caribbean refuse to be the scene of foreign confrontations and firmly believe that the region's problems should and can be solved in their own area, guaranteeing that the Latin American region will be a region of peace.

4. We reject the interventionism that has had recent and dramatic manifestations in the region, and we note the need to find a negotiated solution to Central America's problems, whose origins lie in the economic, social, and political conditions that prevail in the area. To this end, we extend our political support to the Contadora Group.

We also recognize that the Central American countries are currently experiencing, with particular intensity, the economic problems that affect all of Latin America and the Caribbean. Therefore, we express our support for the Action Committee for the the Economic and Social Development of Central America (CADESCA), a Latin American regional organization recently created within SELA to seek, among other objectives, to mobilize resources for economic and social development, in order to solve the Central American peoples' basic problems.

5. Latin America and the Caribbean are facing the most serious and profound economic and social crisis of the present century, one that has singular and unprecedented characteristics.

6. In the face of the economic and social regressioned of recent years that resulted from this crisis, we express our deep concern to the international public over the prevailing conditions of the world economy, which seriously affect the development and stability of the region.

7. The crisis demands urgent solutions in the form of joint action based on regional cooperation and the adoption of common positions intended to strengthen the region's capacity to respond. This response must immediately attend to the most critical of the current situations. It must also fall within the framework of both medium-term and long-term prospects, in order to be in line with the structural causes of the crisis, while increasing interntional cooperation for development and making it more effective under conditions that accord with the scope and gravity of the current economic crisis.

8. The origin of this crisis involves both internal and external factors, and to a large extent our capacity to overcome it depends upon the external factors. However, these factors lie beyond our countries' control and seriously limit our options for overcoming the crisis. The economic policies of certain industrialized countries have severely affected the developing countries, particularly those in our region, by virtue of the vulnerability and dependence of their economies and their increasing participation in international economic relations. These policies have caused a constant deterioration in the terms of exchange, a decline in trade, an excessive increase in interest rates, and a sudden reversion of the flow of capital. The overwhelming burden of our foreign debt falls within this framework.

9. The most pernicious social effects of this situation are reflected in the higher unemployment figures to previously unheard of levels, in the substantial decline of real personal income, and in the severe deterioration of the population's standard of living, with increasingly grave consequences for the political and social stability of our people. The persistence of this situation will in turn lead to even more serious negative effects on our economies.

10. In order to make the region more autonomous, we are willing to mobilize the potential human and material resources that both Latin America and the Caribbean have to prepare a joint response to the crisis that is currently affecting us, promoting and coordinating the activities of regional institutions. We commit our entire political will to this purpose.

11. Adjustments that have prolonged depressive consequences on production, employment, and the standard of living are incompatible with the stated objectives. For this reason, concurrent actions, enabling the region's countries promptly to restore the conditions necessary to resume development are required from the international community.

12. The response of both Latin America and the Caribbean to the crisis is based on the need to complement each country's efforts, as well as those made at the subregional level, by strengthening regional cooperation and integration.

13. This response requires the firm and resolute participation of all national sectors in our countries, and it will achieve its objectives only if the benefits that it yields are fully and effectively extended to the poorer rural and urban groups, which must be fully integrated into the development process if they are to achieve a dignified life. In this context, this document acquires special force and expresses the determination to support, among other things, those actions intended to achieve and maintain regional nutritional security.

14. However, the efforts of the region itself are not enough to overcome this crisis. It is essential that these efforts be complemented and reinforced with important foreign support, primarily in the areas of trade and finance.

15. There is a very close and inseparable link between foreign trade and international financing. Only the joint management of the two factors -- which will, among other things, foster an increased payment capacity among our countries, a capacity to which the payment of the debt must be adapted -- will contribute to a positive solution of our foreign debt problem.

16. The attitude of the Latin American and Caribbean governments that have recognized and assumed their obligations demands that the creditor countries, international financial organizations, and international private banks work responsibly to help solve the foreign debt problem, taking into account, moreover, its political and social implications. Consequently, flexible and realistic criteria are required for the renegotiation of the debt, including deadlines, grace periods, and interest rates that are compatible with the recovery of economic growth. Only in this way will continuity in the payment of the debt be guaranteed.

17. We warn that it is neither just nor rational for the region's countries to have become net capital exporters, thus aggravating their precarious economic situation, which in the end will work against the interests of the industrialized countries and those of the world community as a whole.

18. Furthermore, we must state that the discord between the taxing and monetary policies of certain industrialized countries is the cause of increased interest rates, which have persisted despite reduced inflation, causing a very serious deterioration of the current situation, as a result of which we require that the international community promote adjustments to eliminate the causes of this distortion.

19. We reiterate the urgent need for measures intended to reform the international monetary and financial system.

20. Along with the growing financial problems, we are also facing a deadlock and a decrease in the levels of world trade, which recently stopped serving as an economic promoter, making a drastically reduced contribution to the funds available for underdeveloped countries. The lower imports by underdeveloped countries resulting from the crisis, further reduced the exchange levels, and caused a recession in their economies.

21. We are concerned about the intensification of protectionist measures on the part of the industrialized countries, since they will be considerably closing their markets to our products. We reiterate that it is urgent for the industrialized countries to stop imposing new protectionist barriers, and that they should start lifting the ones currently in force.

22. We believe that actions limiting access to markets and curtailing the scope of action of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade -- through the application of limiting and discriminating policies, such as quota limitations and conditions of reciprocity -- should be stopped.

23. The price of basic export products has dropped to alarming levels, which has had a negative chain reaction on the region's trade conditions. In this respect, we intend to implement and promote the necessary multilateral actions for a dynamic stabilization of prices, thus ensuring an improvement in the income and export levels.

24. We issue a formal call to the leaders of industrialized countries, urging them to become aware of the gravity of the region's economic situation, its high social cost, and the need for their urgent participation in measures to help the region face the crisis, directly through their governments and through international organizations.

25. The energy sector is particularly important at this point in supporting the economic and social development of our peoples. The region will increase its efforts to achieve and maintain a high level of energy self-sufficiency, with technological autonomy. To this end, we recognize the importance of supporting the Latin American Energy Organization (OLADE) so it can achieve its objectives and carry out the Latin American Program of Energy Cooperation (PLACE).

26. We stress to the international community our conviction that if Latin America and the Caribbean return to the path of economic development, the region will again become a dynamic element in the necessary recovery of a healthy world economy.

27. In conclusion, and within the spirit of the Buenos Aires Platform, we express our willingness to reinforce the unity of developing countries and to promote a joint strategy for the reactivation and development of the world's economy.

We believe that this solemn occasion shows the permanent desire of our countries to maintain regional unity -- which is an essential requirement for our development -- overcoming all obstacles.

We have reached agreements that are both a challenge and reason for hope. Their implementation is obviously subject to the efficiency of our negotiating capacity, and to the seriousness with which regional and subregional institutions and organizations comply with their commitments.

In this respect, we ask of Ecuador's consitutional president, Dr Osvaldo Hurtado, that the Quito Declaration, which we have approved here, be formally distributed among the heads of state or government of developing countries that are members of the Group of 77, heads of state or government of industrialized countries, and regional and international institutions and organizations.

We urge subregional and regional organizations to prepare reports on accomplishments made in carrying out actions and tasks assigned to them, and to send them to the regular meeting of SELA's Latin American Council for analysis and evaluation of the progress of the plan of action.

ALFONSIN ADDRESS ON DEMOCRACY, RULE OF LAW

PY191104 Buenos Aires Argentina Televisora Color in Spanish 0010 GMT 19 Jan 84

["Extensive excerpt" from an address given by President Raul Alfonsin at a 19 January memorial service on the first anniversary of the death of former President Arturo Illia, at La Recoleta, Buenos Aires -- recorded]

[Text] I remember holding many chats with Doctor Arturo Illia, and he always maintained with real Ghandi-style tenacity that fighting authoritarian governments will yield little result if we do not simultaneously teach democracy, because struggling in this way without teaching democracy could lead us to replace one authoritarian government by another kind of authoritarian government of a different kind. [applause] He used to tell us that the only way to rule Argentina was by respecting the law and the constitution. He said that respecting the law and the Constituion was the only way for Argentines to overcome divisions and confrontations which could lead the country to social disruption.

I believe that the message left by Arturo Illia focuses on the need not only to create a good government but also to teach democracy. Hence, now that we have warded off forever the ghost of instability and, above and beyond our natural differences and the sometimes harsh discussions we engage in, and now that we are developing our institutional life by respecting democratic institutions, we must heed that message and proclaim without political distinctions that, above and beyond the positive or negative things of the government, the Argentine people must permanently struggle for the state of law, progress and human dignity. [applause]

Arturo Illia said that democracy is a revolution and that we must continue to teach democracy in this country so that no one can be misled, so that no one can mislead us, so that we may not be misled by absurd minorities which do not understand the raison d'etre of our struggle.

In order for all of us to understand the need to strengthen the state of law to attain justice and peace among Argentines, and for none of us to be misled, we will have to overcome obstacles, of course, because there will be small groups, minorities which have earned for themselves the rejection of the Argentine people, which are seeking to utilize this time of reconciliation, justice, truth for other purposes. What does it have to do with democracy to perpetrate attacks on citizens who come to court to testify? [applause]

Is this done for the sake of democracy? That is a lie. [applause] Is it done in the name of justice? That is false. This kind of justice is rendered by people's tribunals and firing squads, but not by a state of law. [applause, shouts of "Alfonsin"]

We must also overcome the nonconformity of other minority groups because the difficulties overlap. [as heard] [Tambien deberemos superar la confusion de las otras minorias porgue los inconvenientes se superponen.] We are faced with both extreme leftist and diehard rightist groups which are trying to spark a confrontation at this time of Argentine recovery and hope. It would seem that we are standing in front of a sinister mirror which reflects the beginning of the extremely serious national conflict of the past. The Argentine people will not tolerate either of these two distortions. [applause]

Another new political event is that, above and beyond our differences, the Argentine majorities are not to remain silent but must express their views. [applause]

As commander in chief of the Armed Forces [applause], I will not, of course, impose the authoritarian rules of discipline which sometime ago prevented retired military officers from making political statements. But is also good for the people to know that these political statements will be restricted, but that the restrictions will not be arbitrarily imposed by the commander in chief of the Armed Forces but by the penal code. [applause]

And even if the penal code provisions are not violated, we must all make a point of stating that one of the most serious crimes that can be committed against the fatherland is a coup d'etat which has no historic justification.

Thus we will all together seek to reconstruct Argentina peacefully under a state of law and through adequate methods. We will also seek the truth in our quest for reconciliation by bearing in mind that when a family is disunited it eventually destroys itself. We will seek major common denominators capable of strengthening our national willingness to tell the world, which is viewing us with curiosity, that it is true that in Argentina we are living in a new time and that without arrogance we are ready to give the world a lesson about the defense of man's dignity in all fields of human rights. [applause]

This is a new time in Argentina. Mr Arturo Illia deserved a chance to live in it with his talents of a statesman. It would have been easy because he would have found the same people we did, and he would have ruled for 6 years.

The heritage is heavy. But we are much better off than before because we have all learned extremely difficult lessons, and we are absolutely convinced that we will increase the chances to attain justice and peace in our homeland only through democratic institutions.

Arturo Illia left us a message of peace, austerity, and exclusive respect for mankind. We will follow that path, exactly that path, and we will together build humbly the Argentina we deserve. [applause, shouts of "Alfonsin"]

ALFONSIN ORDERS SUMMARY TRIAL FOR GENERAL CAMPS

PY191646 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1630 GMT 19 Jan 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 19 Jan (DYN) -- President Raul Alfonsin has ordered that General Ramon J. Camps, retired, former Buenos Aires police chief, who is already under arrest in the headquarters of the I Corps, be arrested and subject to a summary trial before the Supreme Council of the Armed Forces. This was reported today at noon by the Defense Ministry through the following communique:

"Today Under Secretary of Defense Jose Horacio Jaunarena delivered to the president of the Supreme Council of the Armed Forces, General Luis Maria Fajes, a copy of Decree 280 dated 18 January 1984 by which in Article 1 the president orders that General Ramon J. Camps be subject to a summary trial before the Supreme Council of the Armed Forces. Article 2 orders the arrest of the above-mentioned general.

"General Camps in under arrest in the I Corps and will remain under arrest until all the investigations are carried out to determine his guilt."

ALFONSIN SWEARS IN NEW HEAD OF NUCLEAR AGENCY

PY191702 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 19 Jan 84

[Text] Engineer Alberto Rafael Constantini was sworn in as president of the National Atomic Energy Commission today at 1230. The ceremony was conducted by President Raul Alfonsin in the presidential office of Government House.

OFFICIAL COMMENTS ON CENTRAL AMERICAN POLICY

PY191845 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 19 Jan 84

[Text] Argentina will not send soldiers or participate in any military intervention in Central America, said Argentine Under Secretary of Foreign Relations Raul Alconada in Panama. Just before leaving for Bogota, Colombia, the Argentine official said that President Raul Alfonsin is studying in detail the withdrawal of Argentine military attaches from that region. He added that the implementation of this type of measure will be explicit support for the Contadora Group, which is trying to solve the Central American crisis through peaceful means. He said: There are no members of the Argentine Armed Forces at the official level in this area. Our country is under no circumstances going to participate in any official intervention with men or equipment. He also said that the only possibility is that there may be Argentines in Central America who are supporters of the prior military regime but who have nothing to do with the current Argentine Government. This comment was made in relation to reports that instructors of the Argentine Armed Forces were training anti-Sandinist groups.

In relation to the Contadora Group, Alconada said that this is the Latin American option of solving conflicts in this region, adding that Argentina is looking for ways to cooperate in this area. Alconada is touring the countries which make up this group -- Mexico, Venezuela, Colombia, Panama, and Ecuador [as heard].

Further on Central America

PA192032 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1314 GMT 19 Jan 84

[By Rafael Candanedo]

[Text] Panama, 19 Jan (ACAN-EFE) -- Argentina will not send "a single soldier" to Central America, nor will it participate "at all in any act of military intervention" in the area, Raul Alconada, under secretary for Latin American affairs at the Argentine Foreign Ministry, has declared.

Before leaving for Bogota, Alconada made a statement in Panama City for ACAN-EFE in which he said that President Raul Alfonsin's Government is making an "in depth" study of the withdrawal of its military attaches in Central America as a measure of support for the "Contadora Group."

An eventual withdrawal of the military attaches in the area, Alconada noted, would "demonstrate our attitude (that of the Argentine Government) and our commitment to the principles of international law being upheld by the Contadora Group." "There are no members of the Argentine Armed Forces in the area officially, and Argentina is not going to participate at all in any act of military intervention with either men or weapons," the ranking South American official added.

He pointed out that as soon as President Alfonsin assumed power on 10 December, all sales of Argentine weapons to Central America were suspended. He confirmed that his government "is not going to send any troops outside its borders to fight their Latin American brothers." Referring to press reports that Argentine military instructers are training the anti-Sandinists, Alconada said: "I believe that to be absolutely false."

"The only possibility is that they may be supporters of the former military government who are still in the area, but who have nothing to do with the Government of the Republic of Argentina," Alconada added. He suggested as another possibility that these people could be linked to those who "hope to demonstrate that the Argentine Armed Forces are engaged in parallel activities [actividades paralelas], which I reject, "Alconada said, "because President Alfonsin's government has taken firm control of the Armed Forces."

Alconada told ACAN-EFE that the Armed Forces "have obeyed the civilian command, and there is no official armed action taking place other than that ordered by the government." U.S. press reports have indicated that Argentine military instructors continue to train the anti-Sandinist Nicaraguan Democratic Forces (FDN), financed by the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA).

The Argentine under secretary explained that his tour, his first of the area, reflects "the concern of the Argentine Government, which has recognized that the Central American conflict is a problem for all Latin America."

"The Contadora initiative is a Latin American initiative to solve the conflicts of the area," he pointed out, indicating that he is not only seeking information about the Contadora process, but is also looking for ways in which Argentina may cooperate in the area.

Alconada, a 33-year old lawyer, first visited Quito, later Mexico and Panama, and is in Colombia today. On 12 February, on the occasion of the inaurguration of Jaime Lusinchi as the president of Venezuela, he will be visiting the fourth Contadora Group member nation.

BRITISH MINISTER'S FALKLANDS VISIT CONDEMNED

PY200231 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 2327 GMT 19 Jan 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 19 Jan (DYN) -- Juan Manuel Casella, president of the Chamber of Deputies' Defense Commission, stated that British Minister Michael Heseltine's announced visit to the Malvinas Islands represents a new British attempt to "revive its irrevocable imperial domain." In a declaration, also signed by Radical Guillermo Sarquis, Casella strongly condemns the British representative's visit to the archipelago.

Casella stated that "it would have been desirable for Great Britain to understand that not only the interlocutors but also the circumstances have changed in this peaceful, democratic Argentina that remains loyal to our proverbial anti-imperialist feeling."

The deputy added that by converting the island "into a nuclear and military stronghold that threatens the continents security" the United Kingdom "is awkwardly hindering the possibility of a fruitful dialogue and is ratifying its expansionist ambition." Casella ended by stating that Great Britain "by failing to understand the new Argeninta reality is conspiring against the peaceful coexistence of the people" in what he termed "another disappointment for all Argentine people."

INTERIOR MINISTER CRITICIZES DISORDERLY GROUPS

PY191429 Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 17 Jan 84 p 8

[Excerpt] Referring to the attack against the Apostolic Nunciature and other violent incidents, Interior Minister Antonio Troccoli has said in Corrientes that "they are attention-getting, but insignificant acts. These are the doings of armed bands which still exist, small groups of misfits who have been out of work since the democratic government came to power; there are also paramilitary and parapolice bands which have been sidelined and are at the service of disorder."

As for the possibility that the attack against the nunciature might be related to negotiations on the Beagle conflict, Minister Troccoli, who was in Corrientes participating in a meeting of six governors of northeast provinces, commented: "It can all be related, but we will not permit any disturbance which can affect the march of freedom that we have begun."

Asked about the government's attitude should subversion flare up again, Troccoli said that "we are not going to leave the country defenseless, because we will repress any excesses, but we will do so with law and justice."

As for his scheduled meeting with Defense Minister Raul Borras and national senators, the interior minister said that "we will exchange opinions on the law to reform the Military Justice Code and on amendments to the original executive branch bill."

Asked whether he would prosecute policemen who had committed excesses during the years of repression, Troccoli replied that "they will be submitted to ordinary courts."

Evaluating the statement recently made by General Aguado Benitez, Minister Troccoli admitted that is was "possible" that the general's opinion "may reflect that of the Armed Forces themselves."

CGT EXPRESSES SUPPORT FOR STRIKE IN URUGUAY

PY200004 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 19 Jan 84

[Excerpt] The Argentine General Confederation of Labor, CGT, has expressed in a communique its total and firm support for the coercive measure adopted by the Uruguayan Interunion Workers Plenum, and it has urged the noble Uruguayan people to continue to make joint efforts to attain their highest objective, which is the return to a state of law.

The CGT communique is signed by CGT Secretary General Saul Ubaldini.

PRESIDENT SILES ZUAZO SWEARS IN NEW CABINET

PY191813 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1652 GMT 19 Jan 84

[Presidential Decreee 20,000 read by Benjamin Miguel Harb, minister secretary general of the Presidency, during the swearing in ceremony of the new Bolivian Cabinet from the hall of the Government House in La Paz -- live]

[Text] Whereas the ministers jointly submitted their resignations, and the president has the power to appoint and dismiss high-ranking government officials in accordance with Article 99 of the National Constitution, President of the Republic Hernan Siles Zuazo decreees:

Article 1. The following ministers are hereby appointed to the positions listed below:

Oscar Bonifaz Gutierrez	Minister of Agriculture and Campesino Affairs
Carlos Miranda Pacheco	Minister of Energy and Hydrocarbons
Benjamin Miguel Harb	Minister Secretary General of the Presidency
Antonio Arnez Camacho	Minister of Aeronautics

Article 2. The folliwng ministers are hereby confirmed in their positions:

Jose Ortiz Mercado	Minister of Foreign Affairs and Worship
Federico Alvarez Plata	Minister of Interior, Migration and Justice
Manuel Cardenas Mallo	Minister of National Defense
Fernando Baptista Gumucio	Minister of Finance
Roberto Jordan Pando	Minister of Planning and Coordination
Alcides Alvarado	Minister of Education and Culture
Hernando Poppe Martinez	Minister of Transport and Communications
Horst Grebe Lopez	Minister of Labor and Labor Development
Carlos Carvajal	Minister of Mining and Metallurgy
Javier Torres	Minister of Social Services and Public Health
Jorge Agreda Balderrama	Minister Secretary General of Integration
Mario Rueda Pena	Minister of Information

Housing and urban affairs minister to be named.

Article 3. All the appointed and confirmed ministers will take over their posts immediately in a special ceremony.

Given in the Government Palace in La Paz on 19 January 1984

Addresses Ministers

PY192355 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1650 GMT 19 Jan 84

[Speech by President Hernan Siles Zuazo during the cabinet swearing-in ceremony at Government House -- live]

[Text] Messrs Ministers of State, Ladies and Gentlemen, and Mr First President of the Chamber of Deputies:

The democratic government has completed 15 months under a constant struggle against the effects of the generalized crisis and the obstacles put in our path by mother nature. During this time our adversaries have not taken into account a fact that is perfectly clear to the entire nation: that Bolivia's true capabilities cannot match the magnitude of the crisis generated during many years of a ruined economy and by the irresponsible actions of dictatorships.

Despite the seriousness of the problems, the government managed to safeguard democracy in the midst of economic and financial difficulties and this fact, alone, represents a victory for a country, which has witnessed its agricultural production drop drastically in addition to enduring delayed payments by the Argentine military government for the export of natural gas.

The year 1983 leaves memories of a difficult year. We received the people's support, which was spontaneously expressed wherever we maintained direct contact with them, but we were also the target of incomprehension and biased attitudes stemming from minority groups that resorted to artificial means to conceal their lack of representativity. We accept criticism, the essential element of any democracy, and we are able to tell the difference between constructive ciriticism that is aimed at rectifying our mistakes, and the biased criticisim aimed at worsening the country's political situation or preparing for its downfall with the hope of emerging unharmed and victorious from the collective disaster.

The year-end social and political truce, to which the Catholic Church successfully contributed, served to inspire the people with the hope of a national understanding that would guarantee a lengthy democratic political cycle in Bolivia.

We have established the cabinet in compliance with the power and prerogatives conferred upon us by Article No 99 of the Constitution. According to the [word indistinct] political structure of the government branches, and specifically the legislative branch, the decisions made by the chief of state cannot be subject to restrictions other than those established by the law. Moreover, in an elected government, such as ours, the president of the republic, in compliance with his powers, is the only person entitled to appoint or dismiss the ministers of state. If it were otherwise, it would mean diminishing the system of government, the independence of the state branches, and the respect that should prevail in their interdependent relationship. Independence means exercising powers within the framework of the Constitution and the law. To coordinate powers implies the exercise of the powers conferred upon each branch without trespassing upon those of other branches; that is, acting as the organs of the same body whose goals and purposes are those of an unitarian, democratic, and representative republic.

Criticism of the ministers, within such an elected government, as in Bolivia, merely shows that one of the chambers disagrees with certain actions of the executive branch. It is a legitimate attitude within a multiparty framework because it reveals a disagreement which is in keeping with the essence of democracy.

According to Article No 70 of the Constitution, the criticism of ministers of state does not imply that the president has the duty of dismissing his aides within the cabinet. If this were so, the logic of the Constitution and the normal functioning of the three powers of state would be altered since it would mean depriving the president of the republic of his expressly acknowledged power to chose his ministers. Criticism, as stipulated by the aforementioned article, is solely and exclusively aimed at achieving changes in the government policy and procedures that are being questioned. The Constitution does not establish that the criticized minister must be dismissed. Therefore, criticism only has the scope of a legislative not a legal action.

The democratic government has taken due notice of these facts and has even extended invitations to the Chamber of Deputies and the Senate in order to reach an agreement about the reasons the criticism of the cabinet came about. This invitation took into account the fact that various political parties are represented in Congress. The government needs to know the congress' opinion on national priority issues in order to reach some agreement that will enable the government to achieve the necessary coordination among the independent powers of the state.

We are concerned about the Senate's decision to suspend relations with the executive branch. This attitude contradicts the provisions of Article 2 of the Constitution, which establishes the principle of separation and independence of the government branches, but which also provides for an interdependence between them which no branch can dispense with because there is no constitutional provision or law which authorizes it.

This attitude not only violates the Constitution but it also affects the normal development of state activities. In the wake of this, the dialogue we proposed was aimed at satisfying the people's demands and it was prompted out of a patriotic motivation. The dialogue with the congressional blocs is by no means designed as interference to undermine congressional activities. On the contrary, it is a legitimate desire for a mutual understanding that will benefit the people and the country's interests. We have been close to negotiations that would have eventually led to the UDP's [Democratic and Popular Unity] reunification. Unfortunately, personal and political interests prevailed over the responsible desire to completely rearrange the political organization that was elected by the Bolivian people in three consecutive elections.

We believe that in a national liberation process as is ours, the self-satisfying, isolationist, and sectarian attitudes are the most expeditious paths to the political [word indistinct] that we are experiencing.

We are at a time in which generalized programs, which are not focused on specific national problems, such as the foreign debt, monetary, salary, financial, and economic issues, become mere rhetoric. Each of these fields require urgent, definite, and settling attitudes instead of vague rhetoric on national liberation.

The people are aware that we have fulfilled our program regarding the people's participation in government actions. For example, the workers comanagement in the COMIBOL [Mining Corporation of Bolivia] represents an answer to those who doubt the degree of participation we grant the workers. Another example is the fact that worker representatives occupy seats on the board of directors of decentralized enterprises, and that peasant representatives occupy posts in state institutions linked to the government's agrarian reform program.

An autocratic president would not resort to dialogue nor to persuasion, as the government has been systematically doing, in order to solve the wave of social conflicts which have arisen owing to the economic crisis we have inherited. An autocratic president would have placed tanks on the streets, as the dictatorships used to do, to repress the people's and workers' demonstrations; he would have repressed the media that criticizes us and persecuted the journalists that attack us.

It is arbitrary to measure the democratic essence and practice of a government on the basis of its conflictive relationship with a certain group or party. The true measure lies in the conscience of the people who are well aware of the progress Bolivia has made on the path of democracy, of the people's participation and the full enforcement of human rights. [applause]

We cannot overlook the corruption, inherited from the past, in the intermediate and lower levels of public administration. Aren't the people aware of the political, social, and labor obstacles that prevented the democratic regime from weeding out the dishonest elements in the state appratus? I am proud of presiding over a government whose members bear with dignity a poverty that represents the most eloquent proof of their honesty and incorruptible spirit. Those who wish to question the honesty of my colleagues should have the courage to give names and show proof. [applause]

The cabinet being sworn in today has the difficult task of adjusting the government's policy to the demands of this particularly difficult time. In the social field the cabinet will have to match the legitimate salary demands of the working class with the country's actual capabilities and curb inflation.

The cabinet will be in charge of starting the literacy campaign aimed at doing away with the scourge of ignorance. Drug trafficking poses a challenge that deserves energic and systematic action. It is not right that this dirty business should continue to stain Bolivia's image abroad, casting clouds over the honesty of the country's leaders.

The cabinet will also be in charge of implementing the development program which we will present soon for a national debate and whose main objective is to modify the country's productive apparatus in order to strengthen the national economy, and promote development, greater social equity, and solidarity, making it possible to improve in the future the standard of living of the great majority within the framework of a integral democracy.

The implementation of the development plan will be the best answer to those who, within and outside the country, are promoting an all-out campaign against Bolivia and its government and who are intentionally disseminating rumors about an alleged lack of coherence by and objectives of the government.

Messrs Ministers, on installing you, I pray that the work that will be carried out by your ministries will satisfy the expectations of the political and social forces that brought the UDP to power and particularly those of all the Bolivian people. Thank you very much. [applause]

PAZ ZAMORA'S UNPUBLISHED LETTER TO CUBA REVEALED

PY192018 La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 12 Jan 84 p 2

[Editorial: "The Vice President's Letter to Cuba"]

[Text] A congressional delegation from Bolivia visited Cuba 10-17 November at the invitation of the National Assembly of the people's government. The Bolivian congressmen had a busy schedule, including visits with the Assembly's president, and with the vice president of the Councils of State Ministers. The latter noted the cultural and historical ties between the two countries.

The highlight of the Cuban official's remark referred to "the guiding principles of the Cuban state's foreign policy based on mutual respect, noninterference, and mutual benefit, and to the identification of this policy with the people struggling against imperialist intervention, aggression, and interference," according to the communique at the conclusion of the Bolivian congressional delegation's visit.

The point which prompts our comment is "the noninterference" in the affairs of other states, because we all know about the Cuban teams which, under the pretext of acting as advisers, are getting politically involved in several Latin American countries, such as Grenada, Nicaragua, and El Salvador. Bolivia is one more case in point, because Cuba has had its eyes set on Bolivia since 1967 when it sent its most outstanding rebel with the mission of starting an armed struggle by organizing guerrillas. The result of this attempt is a well-known historical fact.

It was also learned through the congressional delegation's official communique that the Bolivian vice president sent a letter to the president of the National Assembly of Cuba "condemning the aggression against Grenada and urging the immediate withdrawal of the invading troops."

Vice President Paz Zamora's letter was not made public in Bolivia, and so there is some doubt about its entire contents. This is somewhat surprising, because the existence of the letter became known in Bolivia through a report coming from Cuba.

We are left wondering whether the nation's vice president has dealt with other questions in his letter to Cuba, a country for which Bolivia has memories of aggression against our nation's sovereignty through the formation of international brigades, mostly made up of Cubans, to launch armed operations in outright interference in our country's internal affairs.

There is another aspect of that letter which draws attention. Until now, the party of the vice president, the Movement of the Revolutionary Left, has adopted a dual policy, leaning at times toward Western democracies and at other times toward communist powers. Was the letter simply meant to convey greetings? Was it meant to make a political presentation on personal terms or on behalf of a party, seeking support? The doubts will only be dispelled when the full text of Vice President Paz Zamora's letter is disclosed.

BRIEFS

VENEZUELAN LOAN -- The Central Bank has reported that the Venezuelan Central Bank granted it a $15-million renewable "swap" [given in English] loan last week. The Central Bank told PRESENCIA that the agreement the two banks signed is a fixed term deposit loan. [Excerpt] [La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 4 Jan 84 p 1 PY]

ARGENTINE, PERUVIAN WHEAT IMPORTS -- Planning Minister Roberto Jordan Pando has announced that Bolivia will import approximately 45,000 metric tons of wheat from Argentina and Peru, anticipating a possible shortage on the domestic market during the second half of January and in February. [Summary] [La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 12 Jan 84 PY]

NO CONSENSUS SEEN BEHIND KISSINGER REPORT

PY161824 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 14 Jan 84 p 3

[From "Notes and Information" page: "Contradictions in a Great Democracy"]

[Text] In an editorial published yesterday, we tried to present a balanced, objective analysis of the Kissinger commission's report, which was written to formulate a possibly bipartisan U.S. policy for the turbulent, strategic Central American region. However, our analysis was based on a newspaper summary of a 132-page document, and we are thus afraid that our opinion was not as broad as it could have been on a question which is being so vehemently discussed in U.S. public opinion. But what we said yesterday can be correctly summed upo in two assertions. First: Reagan formed a bipartisan commission headed by a public figure, Henry Kissinger, who even today commands the respect of large sectors of U.S. public opinion, and he gave it the task of putting together a national policy which, ending discussions and differences, could be applied in Central America with the full authority of the United States so that the policy could prove effective and successful. Second: The report itself set in motion a new debate, eliciting reactions which reflect antagonistic, partisan positions which are apparently irreconciliable. Reagan still expects Congress to make an effort to find, on the basis of the Kissinger report, a consensus in evaluating the suggestions.

It is not appropriate here to sidestep the problem by praising the functioning of the policymaking process which is traditional in a democratic country like the United States. Since the times of Tocqueville we have known about the advantages of a really functional bipartisan system and of the division and balance between the powers of the executive and legislative branches. However, making foreign policy dependent on internal policy, which is eminently partisan, in order to guarantee the nation's permanent interests is not really a necessity for a perfect democracy. The example of the great European democracies, Great Britain and France, shows that the turnover of antagonistic parties in government should not affect the consensus regarding the nation's permanent interests in the international arena. What is inconceivable -- although it can be understood in the light of an old, atavistic, isolationist tradition -- is that a great and certainly democratic nation has not yet in 200 odd years of historical existence arrived at a consensus regarding its permanent interests in a region bordering its territory, located in its geopolitical sphere.

The policy which Reagan is trying to implement in Central America and which the Kissinger report endorses -- a fact which startled THE NEW YORK TIMES to the point of saying despairingly that the recommendations of the former secretary of state are nothing but "pure Reagan doctrine," as though this were something indecent -- serves the permanent and vital interests of the United States, which cannot tolerate an extracontinental power -- its number one adversary -- surrounding its territory with a chain of Soviet satellites, bases for future expansion in the Western Hemisphere and for attacks against the United States itself. The Reagan and Kissinger policy is correct. To spare the United States disaster, that policy intends to adopt socioeconomic and politicomilitary measures, emphasizing the former and holding the latter as a last option -- admitting them as a necessity in the face of provocations such as those in El Salvador.

Of course, there are the opponents of that policy who believe that $8 billion is too much (when in reality is very little) to spend in an election year to prop up a region, although they recognize that the challenge is socioeconomic rather than ideological and international.

There are others who condemn as ill-advised and anti-American involving the United States in military conflicts because the significance of the small countries affected does not justify the cost in money and blood. What then are the concrete alternative of those who oppose the Reagan policy in Central America? None, except those dictated by the spirit of isolationism. But how can consensus on international policy now be demanded from a public the majority of whom do not know El Salvador's location, and from congressmen whose historical and international farsightedness is not better than that of the majority of the U.S. people? Regarding the press, especially the big press, it suffices to cite the reportage carried by the prestigious TIME magazine saying that only 13 percent of the public believes in the credibility of newspapers. Our impression, rather our firm conviction, is that the majority of the U.S. people approves of the policy of President Reagan, who should thus continue to press forward for his objectives whatever the cost, even if his policy is not bipartisan but only Republican.

FOREIGN MINISTER ASSESSES QUITO DECLARATION

PY171955 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 14 Jan 84 p 21

[By special correspondent Chico Dias]

[Text] Quito -- The "Quito Declaration," the final document that was released yesterday at the closing of the Latin American Economic Conference, dealt with the foreign debt of 33 participating countries in a prudent manner, conveying firm proposals to the rich countries, creditor banks, and financial organizations. It was within the line which Brazil has always defended.

This is the opinion of Foreign Minister Saraiva Guerreiro, who headed the Brazilian delegation, in analyzing not only the final document, but the proceedings of the conference, which was divided in two parts. The first part was purely technical, with one commission studying the foreign debt and another studying trade, energy, and food. The second and most important part was devoted to the political debate, and the presidents and heads of delegation in attendance made speeches. The "Quito Declaration" resulted from these policial debates.

As for the tactics adopted and the option for open, frank, yet friendly dialogue with creditor countries and sectors, when many were expecting the conference to end up with a collective moratorium request, or the founding of a debtors' club, Foreign Minister Saraiva Guerreiro gave this explanation:

"The main objective was attained. Latin America needed to begin making joint decisions. Everything was done as it should have been. First, it was a high-level conference with chiefs of state or their representatives present. This made the debates valuable in terms of the analysis of the situation, and the corresponding suggestions. The power of persuasion of the Declaration of Quito, which is so clear from the consensus behind it, is nonaggressive. The facts themselves are eloquent. The declaration says everything, correctly analyzes facts, and suggest solutions both to general problems and to the foreign debt."

The minister also noted the general concern about the adoption of rational measures by the creditor nations and banks so that the debtor countries can pay their debts: "No country made any suggestion to the effect that the banks forgive the debts or take losses. The measures proposed will not cause losses to banks, because they are only suggested to extend the payment periods, making less profit but taking no losses."

Many observers believe that this soft language and diplomatic posture might not sensitize the creditors, who would see the conference as just another empty attempt by Latin America to take a position as it has done before on other occasions or in other documents, such as the Cancun meeting where North-South relations were discussed.

Minister Saraiva Guerreior rejected those observers with this explanation: "On the contrary. At least that's not the way we see it, and we have a portion of responsibility for the results of the conference. We believe that if one wants to persuade and one has rational, real arguments, emotional rhetoric only hinders. It reduces the intrinsic value of arguments, which are by themselves logical.

"I do not see that injecting more emotion into the Quito Declaration was necessary. Requests are not made counting on the generosity of others nor appealing to the debtors' interests alone, but considering the interests of all parties involved, including questions of trade. The document does not say that the situation is the result of a malicious conspiracy, but the result of accumulated circumstances."

According to Saraiva Guerreiro, the "Quito Declaration" will not fall in a vacuum nor will it be disdained by creditors, but rather it will be received with great interest. As soon as it is distributed to the governments of industrialized countries, creditor banks and international organizations by the Ecuadoran Government, which hosted the conference, and through embassies, the declaration will be carefully analyzed.

Minister Saraiva Guerreior also believes that the document will have positive reverberations because many of its points have defenders within the governments of developed countries and within the academic community, which directly influences the management philosophy of big banks and of international financial organizations. The Brazilian foreign minister also believes that the "Quito Declaration" will be evaluated by the seven rich countries in their upcoming meeting.

MALUF RUNS FOR PDS PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATION

PY191310 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes in Portuguese 1000 GMT 18 Jan 84

[Excerpt] Paulo Maluf has just communicated to the PDS [Social Democratic Party] that he wants to run for the presidency and submitted his platform. A group of PDS congressmen and Deputy Paulo Maluf have reported to party headquarters in Brasilia to officially communicate to PDS President Senator Jose Sarney that Maluf will go to the party convention, which is to elect the PDS presidential candidate to succeed President Joao Figueiredo. Maluf also handed over to the PDS president his platform. Deputy Maluf told the press afterward that in his platform he makes commitments to the nation.

PARTIES ISSUE POLITICAL, ECONOMIC STATEMENT

PY161555 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 10 Jan 84 p C 3

[Text] Nine centrist and rightist movements and groups yesterday issued a statement in Vina del Mar stressing the need to restore democracy in Chile, recognizing the validity of the 1980 Constitution, condemning violence, and asking that unemployment be declared a "national catstrophe."

The document states that "during a meeting held in Vina del Mar at the invitation of the 'Javiera Carrera' independent movement, the regional leaders of the Christian Social Movement, the National Party, the National Union, the Independent Democratic Union (UDI), the Radical Democratic Party, the SOL [expansion unknown] organization, the Independent Nationalist Organization, the PADENA [National Democratic Party], and a group of independent sectors have agreed on the following:

"1. That consensus has been reached on the need to restore democracy.

"2. That the Constitution approved in 1980 is valid, that the necessary amendments must be enacted, and that laws regulating political activities must be urgently approved.

"3. That a peaceful transition period in which the people may participate must be implemented, and that violence and the doctrines that curtail freedom and impede democratic coexistence must be condemned.

"4. That congress must be convened at an early date, to allow the people to participate in national life.

"5. That all national leaders must be called upon to spare no efforts in the struggle for the achievement of the objectives.

"6. That unemployment must be declared a 'national catastrophe' and that appropriate socioeconomic measures must be adopted to bring about national recovery and to guarantee the right to stable jobs and decent salaries. It is hereby stated that the Democratic Radical Party, although it does not endorse the above conclusions, accepts them."

The document concludes by stating that "the 'Javiera Carrera' movement and the undersigned want to point out to the people that, in a significant achievement, consensus has been reached on the above points with due respect for the identity of individual movements."

UDI leader Ignacio Astete voiced his party's "support for the initiative of the 'Javiera Carrera' movement," and said that it shared "the spirit of unity underlying the action." However, he remarked that "the agreement was based on due respect for the autonomy and independence of each organization, in the belief that unity is a precondition for action." He reported that national leader Maximo Errazuriz and regional leader Alex Droppelman represented the UDI at the Vina del Mar meeting.

For his part, the Radical Democratic Party's leader Jorge Ovalle said that he would speak "on his own behalf because according to party statutes, only party President Angel Faivovich can speak for the party." Ovalle noted that he was not aware that a representative of his party had been appointed to the meeting and that he himself does not accept the 1980 Constitution as valid. Nevertheless, he pointed out that he agreed "with those points that demand a rapid return of democracy, condemn violence, and declare unemployment a national catastrophe."

LABOR, POLITICAL LEADERS DEBATE GENERAL STRIKE

Seguel Opposes Strike

PY130110 Santiago Radio Cooperativa in Spanish 1715 GMT 12 Jan 84

[Text] Union Leader Rodolfo Seguel has noted that for the first time in his life he is in agreement with Interior Minister Sergio Onofre Jarpa in that a general strike is not the best thing for the country. He added: The best thing that can happen to this country is the return of democracy.

[Begin Seguel recording] I believe that the interior minister is right in saying that this is not the solution for the country. I believe this is the first time I agree with Jarpa. Yes, a strike is no solution. The solution for the Chilean people and for all present problems is the return of democracy to our country. [end recording]

Rodolfo Seguel, who was recently reelected president of the Copper Workers Confederation [CTC], added that all workers have a right to strike. He also noted that Chilean workers will hold a general strike only when they are truly prepared for it.

Communist Party Supports Strike

PY142317 Paris AFP in Spanish 2351 GMT 13 Jan 84

[Excerpt] Santiago, 13 Jan (AFP) -- The outlawed Chilean Communist Party (Pro-Soviet) today noted that a general strike against the military regime of President Augusto Pinochet must be organized without delay and without hesitation. In a declaration, the Chilean Communist Party notes that 1984 is the year for a general strike to end the dictatorship, and it states that March is the month for the strike. The communist note issued to the press states that proper plans must be made in every factory, in the fields, schools, and even in sports clubs.

Interior Minister Sergio Onofre Jarpa this week charged that political leaders are touring the country urging people to strike, but he warned that the plan will not succeed.

The strike demanding the end of the Pinochet government has been proposed by opposition sectors as a natural continuation of the 1983 popular protests in which 55 civilians were killed when soldiers and policemen repressed the demonstrators. Manuel Bustos, leader of the National Union Coordinating Board, which groups 120,000 workers and peasants, has expressed his support for the strike while Rodolfo Seguel, leader of the National Workers Command and the powerful Copper Workers Confederation, has stated that the strike is an irrevocable right.

AD Position Criticized

PY171431 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 17 Jan 84

[Text] Manuel Bustos, president of the National Union Coordinating Board [CNS], has sent a letter to AD [Democratic Alliance] President Mario Sharpe strongly criticizing the latter's refusal to sponsor a general strike for March 1984. A few days ago, the AD president had told the interior minister that the AD had not planned and was not planning a strike. In this letter Bustos conveys his surprise at this position.

AD President Answers Criticism

PY181503 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 18 Jan 84

[Excerpts] AD President Mario Sharpe has answered the charges leveled by CNS [National Union Coordinating Board] leader Manuel Bustos. In response to a letter from Bustos in which the CNS leader charged that Sharpe had denied that the AD was organizing a general strike for March 1984, Sharpe gave assurances that the AD has neither organized a strike nor has it discussed the issue. Sharpe said that he agreed with Bustos on many points on the political situation, the government, and the AD. But, he noted, I disagree that I fell into the interior minister's trap on the strike.

[Begin Sharpe recording] I want to reiterate that the only thing I have said on the general strike is that it has not yet been debated by the AD. This will be done at the proper time, that is, when workers so decide, because this decision must be made by workers. [end recording]

Labor leaders have condemned the call for a general strike launched by Manuel Bustos. Raul Orrego, the president of the Union of Agrarian Provinces, has said that Bustos has adopted a totally irresponsible attitude, because a general strike would not solve workers' problems.

In turn, copper workers leader Guillermo Medina, who is also a Council of State member, said that [words indistinct] of AD President Sharpe, who did not support the general strike. Medina said that Sharpe smelled that the strike would fail.

(Atilio Seppi), leader of the National Front of Autonomous Organizations, has said that workers must be on the alert in the wake of the CNS call for a strike. Workers, he explained, must recall what happened in the strike called in the copper sector, when leaders did not support the workers who were dismissed. Jorge Alvarez Aguero, the president of the National Truck Owners Association, also categorically rejected the strike.

COPPER WORKERS LEADER CRITICIZES SEGUEL ELECTION

PY141355 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 14 Jan 84

[Excerpt] Guillermo Medina has stated that the elimination of the territorial rotation system from the statutes of the Confederation of Copper Workers [CTC] deprives the small unions of all possibilities of obtaining the CTC chairmanship. The copper workers leader made this statement just before a meeting with the interior minister.

[Begin Medina recording] It is just that an organization like the CTC should be nationwide, but it is also just for there to be rotation. Otherwise the CTC chairman will be chosen according to the circumstances reigning in the country. I believe they are setting up a system that is quite arbitrary, and this is being done by the same people who are asking for freedom and democracy, for an end to the presidential term of office, because there must be a change of people. But when they are in power, they apply the dictatorship of the proletariat, so now we are facing a real union dictatorship. [end recording]

Medina added that the Labor Ministry has full authority to intervene in the new CTC leadership, because four leaders expelled from [words indistinct] are members of that leadership.

FOUR GENERALS REPORTEDLY ASK TO RETIRE

PA200427 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0243 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] Bogota, 19 Jan (EFE) -- The crisis that has arisen within the Colombian Armed Forces following the resignation of Defense Minister General Fernando Landazabal Reyes worsened today with the decision of three high-ranking military officers to retire.

The report was broadcast today by the "24 Hours" television newscast, which stated that Air Force Commander General Angel Maria Gomez Jauregui, Army Commander General Guillermo Jaramillo Berrio, and General Bernardo Lema Henao, chairman of the joint chiefs of staff, have decided to retire.

The presidency of the republic did not confirm the report because President Belisario Betancur was in Cartagena de Indias. He will return to Bogota in the next few hours.

Minister Landazabal resigned and asked to retire from the military forces on Wednesday, following a speech by Betancur in which he said that the Armed Forces should not participate in politics.

To replace Landazabal, the president appointed General Gustavo Matamoros D'Acosta, the Armed Forces commander, who in turn should have been replaced by the Air Force commander, General Gomez Jauregui, who has now resigned.

Replacements Named

PA201322 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] Bogota -- Only 24 hours after Defense Ministry changes and an announcement by General Gustavo Matamoros D'Acosta, the new defense minister, that changes and promotions in the Armed Forces were imminent, it has been reported that the commanders of the Army and the Air Force and the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff have resigned.

Generals Guillermo Jaramillo Berrios, Angel Maria Gomez Jauregui, and Bernardo Lema Henao have presented their resignations to President Belisario Betancur, who plans to appoint General Miguel Vega Uribe as commander of the military forces today, replacing Gen Gustavo Matamoros D'Acosta.

Gen Jaramillo Berrios will be replaced by Major General Rafael Obdulio Forero Moreno, the current Army deputy commander, a post that will be filled by Major General (Rafael Samudio Molina).

Gen Miguel Vega Uribe, Defense Ministry Secretary, will be promoted to general commander of the nation's forces. Major General Jose Leal Barrera will become chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. The new Air Force commander will be Major General Augusto Moreno. Vice Admiral Tito Garcia Motta will remain in his post as commander of the Navy.

4 M-19 REBELS, 1 SOLDIER KILLED IN CLASH

PA170429 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 17 Jan 84

[Text] Florencia, Caqueta -- Four members of an M-19 [19 April Movement] cell were killed this afternoon in a clash with Army troops near Florencia, the capital of Caqueta Department.

An official Army spokesman reported that four M-19 rebels were killed by units of the Juanambu Battalion, which is conducting a counterinsurgency operation in response to the kidnapping of three Army officers.

The clashes took place at Capucho, approximately 45 km south of Florencia. One soldier was killed in the shooting, which lasted approximately 15 minutes.

Reports released in Florencia state that Army troops confiscated a large amount of war supplies and that they have currently surrounded the M-19 group that took part in the clash.

The identity of the dead rebels has yet to be determined, but it has been said that ample information on the action will be released in the next few hours.

POLICE UNCOVER ELN 'PEOPLE'S PRISON' IN FONTIBON

PA141806 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0207 GMT 14 Jan 84

[By Jesus Fonseca Escartin]

[Excerpts] Bogota, 13 Jan (EFE) -- The Colombian Police general staff has uncovered a spectacular "people's prison" where Jaime Betancur, brother of the Colombian president, and 10 other people were held hostage by the National Liberation Army (ELN).

The group was composed of nine people, three of whom died, although it is believed that there were 15 guerrillas in the house and that the rest were not there when the raid occurred.

The ELN "general headquarters" was an authentic "fort," located in Fontibon, and adjoining a special district of Bogota, west of the capital.

The building where the ELN had established its "urban general headquarters," according to Colonel Miguel Maza Marquez, had formerly been an oil factory, closed as the result of a fire.

Surrounded by a 3-meter high wall with mesh metal wiring on the top, the house also had a gymnasium which the guerrillas used to stay in shape. The building had other isolated rooms, halls, and a firing range.

In addition to President Betancur's brother, other hostages held there were Sonia Sarmiento, daughter of a wealthy banker; Dr Alfonso Esguerra; Kenneth Bishop, oil expert; Rocco Lupini, a child; Elino Calvache, and Rodrigo Lievano, businessmen.

GOVERNMENT SENDS SECOND PROTEST NOTE TO PERU

PA200409 Quito Cadena Ecuador Radio in Spanish 2300 GMT 19 Jan 84

[Text] Ecuador today accused Peru of dangerously exploiting Sunday's border incident in which an Ecuadoran soldier was killed and others wounded. The Ecuadoran Government has reiterated its protest over this incident, and Ecuadoran Foreign Minister Luis Valencia delivered a second protest note to Peruvian Ambassador to Ecuador Felipe Valdivieso. This note is Ecuador's answer to the one sent by Peru blaming Ecuador for the border incident. Peru accused Ecuadoran soldiers of entering Peru and harassing an advance surveillance position with weapons. Peru also said that Ecuadoran helicopters overflew Peruvian territory.

In replying to this note, the Ecuadoran Foreign Ministry said that at the time of the incident the Ecuadoran soldiers were in Ecuadoran territory, without weapons, not in uniform, dressed in gym suits, and doing physical exercises.

The Ecuadoran reply added that the soldiers were not in Peruvian territory, not even by accident, and they did not harass the advance surveillance position.

HURTADO ENTERS HOSPITAL FOR 'ROUTINE' CHECKUP

PA181546 Paris AFP in Spanish 1417 GMT 18 Jan 84

[Text] Quito, 18 Jan (AFP) -- It was reported today by offical Government Palace sources that Ecuadoran President Osvalado Hurtado was been admitted to the military hospital for a routine annual checkup. The president had a hectic schedule last year and early this month, with visits to many of the country's provinces and trips abroad; observation of the electoral campaign, which will conclude on 29 January with the general election of the country's leading officials; and the Latin American Economic Conference, which ended here last week. According to sources, President Hurtado will resume his normal activities tomorrow.

BRIEFS

OIL SALE -- The marketing department of the Ecuadoran State Petroleum Corporation has sold 700,000 barrels of oil to a U.S. company. The sale price was $28.13 per barrel, according to official sources. This represents a recovery from last year's prices, which has declined because of conditions in the world market. [Summary] [Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1130 GMT 19 Jan 84 PA]

OPPOSITION LETTER TO STROESSNER ASKS REFORMS

PY191435 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 18 Jan 84 p 12

[Text] The Radical Liberal Party (PLR) has sent a letter to Army General Alfredo Stroessner, the president of the Republic, petitioning for, among other things, "the release of political prisoners, the abolition of the repressive laws that restrict freedom, particularly Law No 209, and the lifting of the state of siege." The letter was handed to President Stroessner on 9 August 1983, a few days before he began a new presidential term. PLR lawmakers did not attend the inauguration ceremony at the congress building. The PLR released the text of the letter yesterday. The letter is signed by Doctor Enzo A. Doldan and Emilio Forestieri, PLR president and secretary general, respectively. It reads:

"The PLR, a party whose platform is based upon respect for order, principles, and juridicial tradition, joined the institutionalization process that began in 1967, with faith in the future of the fatherland, with great generosity, and without relinquishing the ideals that are part of its heritage."

"We should nonetheless point out to Your Excellency that in the long years that have passed since the above-mentioned process began, little progress has been made toward establishing a genuinely democratic regime. This has happened despite the PLR's sustained efforts to attain such a noble objective, efforts aimed at promoting social change. A staunch defender of human rights," the letter adds, "the PLR has respected the Constitution and the law."

The letter goes on to say that "we are increasingly concerned that many evils still persist, although they should have already been eradicated as a logical consequence of the fulfillment of everyone's role in the task of achieving unity among Paraguayans. Unity is the only sound foundation for major political and socioeconomic achievements that can preserve democracy and guarantee the benefits of progress for us and for future generations."

"The ruling party continues to enjoy discriminatory privileges and its members are practically the exclusive beneficiaries of the rights granted by the exercise of power, while opposition parties, which have been the target of systematic discrimination, have only been allowed to fulfill their civic duties. The most harmful aspect of this discriminatory treatment is the disregard for the constitutional principle that merit is the only precondition for access to major national institutions, like the Army, and to public posts," the letter adds.

"Laws that restrict freedom, like Law No 209 and others, remain valid despite the monolithic power that Your Excellency exercises with the support of the Army and of a majority that claims to be overwhelming. These laws punish the so-called 'crimes of conscience,' although such crimes may not even involve any kind of action. Yet action is what must be punished, if illegal. International communism is said to be fought as a doctrine that is inapprorpiate and harmful to our dearest ideals of democracy and freedom. Yet official radio stations are permanently stirring up hatred among Paraguayans, and those who are responsible for this campaign operate with absolute impunity," the letter remarks.

"The economic picture is also disappointing. The economically active sectors of the country are suffering the effects of bad economic policy whereby speculators rather than producers are the main beneficiaries. The majority of the Paraguayan people, made up of peasants, agricultural workers, and wage-earners, who play the main role in creating national wealth, receive the smallest share of the benefits of the GNP," the letter complains.

"At times we wonder, with a sincerely patriotic and nonsectarian spirit, whether Your Excellency realizes that complete plans designed at the national level to consolidate our economy -- like the National Wheat Plan -- have been caused to fail. It is as if a malevolent infiltration were seeking to prevent our country from taking off toward the future of material and moral greatness to which our nation is historically entitled," the PLR letter adds.

"Our requests are simple and, driven as they are by a highly patriotic feeling, they aim at consolidating our country's dearest aspirations. We strongly believe that only Your Excellency can grant them, because Your Excellency has firm powers and the support of the Armed Forces, which must be the guardians of national sovereignty. The preservation of our national sovereignty is not to be understood as the mere protection of our territorial integrity; it also involves the preservation of all the resources of the nation and, above all, respect for the will of the people. At the beginning of a new presidential term, nothing would be as constructive and patriotic as Your Excellency's decision to enact the following measures that we propose and that reflect the wishes of the entire Paraguayan people: the release of political prisoners; the abolition of the repressive laws that restrict freedom, particularly law No 209; and the lifting of the state of siege," the PLR letter concludes.

BRIEFS

GASOLINE SUBSTITUTION SAVINGS -- The country has saved approximately $7.7 million over the past 3 years by substituting alcohol for imported fuels. [Excerpt] [Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 15 Jan 84 p 7 PY]

BELAUNDE MINIMIZES BORDER INCIDENT WITH ECUADOR

PY200120 Paris AFP in Spanish 2230 GMT 19 Jan 84

[Text] Lima, 19 Jan (AFP) -- Peruvian President Fernando Belaunde today minimized the border incident last Sunday between Ecuadoran and Peruvian troops. The president said that this was an unfortunate incident which has been extremely exaggerated (by the press). He made this statement after dedicating a road 65 km east of Lima. After describing the case as a mere incident which occurred in a demarcated area, Belaunde reported that the causes of the incident are being investigated.

Asked by a journalist whether the incident could be linked to the elections in Ecuador, Belaunde said he would rather not speculate on the subject. Belaunde said: I do not want to make any comment other than to express my desire that these things should never be magnified so that the good will of our countries may not be undermined.

In Quito, Ecuadoran officials reported that the incident, which took place in the area of the Corrientes River in the Amazon Jungle, claimed the life of an Ecuadoran soldier and left another wounded.

BISHOPS DECRY TERRORISM, REPRESSION, SEEK MEASURES

PY162145 Paris AFP in Spanish 1515 GMT 16 Jan 84

[Text] Lima, 16 Jan (AFP) -- Three Peruvian bishops today asked the government to implement emergency measures for the needy, and decried the terrorism unleashed by Shining Path and the repression, which have resulted in a high toll of deaths and unresolved disappearances.

The communique issued by the prelates is entitled "Defending Life." It was released on the occasion of the first anniversary of the death of eight inmates and a hostage, a U.S. nun, while they were fleeing from a penitentiary in Lima.

Voicing their concern over the deep social and economic gaps still prevailing in Peru, the Chimbote bishop, Luis Bambaren, the Cajamarca bishop, Jose Dammert, and Lima's deputy bishop, Luciano Metzinger, said that this situation has become more acute as a result of the increasing influence of world problems on Peru.

The bishops added that it was a moral and patriotic duty not to subdue or bow to such an international order, neither as a government nor as people. They also said that the government should implement nationwide emergency measures defending the lives of the most neglected people, bolstered by political parties and other institutions.

The bishops said that such measures would create a new atmosphere in Peru which would allow for successfully coping with other ways lives are endangered, among them certainly terrorism, something which we abhor, as it is not, in our opinion, a way for personal or social liberation.

The bishops said that the groups that have started these actions have led to the unjustifiable death of civilians and policemen, but that terrorism in Peru has been fought off thus far with methods focusing on indiscriminate violence and intimidation. They also said that these methods, given the large number of deaths and unresolved disappearances, appear to have involved a large number of innocent people. The bishops recommended that the military counteraction be replaced by an all-encompasing response to all the problems prevailing in the region concerned. The bishops, who recalled that 26 January marks the first anniversary of the killing of eight Peruvian journalists and their scout in Ayachucho, southeast of Lima, under circumstances which have not been clarified to date, asked that justice be given freedom to act, try, and sentence the culprits. In other words, the bishops said that the events that took place in Lima a month ago are forcing Christians to take a stand in defense of the lives of our countrymen, against the causes which produce social gaps and lead to violence and death.

Meanwhile, it was reported in Ayacucho today that a military detachment yesterday shot at a vehicle returning from the burial of a young woman who was slain last Thursday by a terrorist group. During the incident, two minors died and 10 other persons were injured [words indistinct] that the military medical doctors recommended to send him back to Lima.

SHINING PATH MURDERS AYACUCHO OFFICIAL, PEASANTS

PY191232 Paris AFP in Spanish 2343 GMT 18 Jan 84

[Text] Ayacucho, Peru, 18 Jan (AFP) -- Fifteen peasants from two hamlets located near this capital were murdered yesterday, Monday, by approximately 100 Shining Path terrorists. This accusation was made here today by relatives of the victims. The relatives explained that the extremists, who were heavily armed, occupied two hamlets in the District of Ocros, and after a people's trial in one of the hamlets they executed the 15 peasants, including the lieutenant governor. The Shining Path commandos then withdrew toward the hills, where today police patrols were looking for them. It was not known this afternoon whether the police had made contact with the extremists.

DELEGATION TO LUSINCHI INAUGURATION NAMED

PY131832 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 13 Jan 84

[Excerpts] President Fernando Belaunde Terry yesterday morning announced the delegation that will represent him at the inauguration of Venezuelan President-elect Jaime Lusinchi. The Peruvian delegation will be headed by Second Vice President Javier Alva Orlandini.

This is Belaunde's statement:

[Begin recording] An important ceremony is to take place in Caracas shortly, namely the handing over of power, which is now vested in Luis Herrera Campins, to Venezuelan President-elect Jamie Lusinchi. I am very pleased to be able to appoint a representative delegation which has honored me by accepting this assignment. I have asked Second Vice President Javier Alva Orlandini to head this delegation, which will be made up of Edmundo Haya de la Torre, an old friend of mine, a notable jurist, and a distinguished senator, and Armando Buendia, a former minister in my government who served as justice minister for 1 year and who was also a representative to the National Assembly. [end recording]

ARMY OFFICERS TO BE PROMOTED TO GENERAL

PY191759 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 19 Jan 84

[Relay by Carlos Meireles from Radio Mobile Unit]

[Excerpt] According to what this El Espectador radio mobile unit has learned, four Army officers will be promoted to general. The decision was made during intense deliberations that have taken place for several days in the Toledo area, specifically in the (Cortijo Vidiela).

According to our sources, the following officers will be promoted to general: Colonel Washington Varela, the current police chief, Colonel Guillermo de Nava, former Salto intendant; 3d Army Division Deputy Commander Ignacio Bonifacio; Colonel Juan Maria Rivero, currently a member of the Central Bank executive board. This is what has been learned from the deliberations being held by the Army leadership in the Toledo area.

Concerning the designation of a new Army commander in chief -- a post that according to persistent rumors that have ciculated in recent hours will be taken over by General Pedro Aranco, the current SEPLACODI [Planning, Coordination and Dissemination Secretariat] secretary -- no resolution has been yet adopted. A decision on this may be made tomorrow.

GOVERNMENT SEIZES ISSUES OF THREE WEEKLIES

PY191738 Montevideo Radio El Espectador in Spanish 1600 GMT 19 Jan 84

[Text] Radio El Espectador has learned that government officials have seized the issues of the weeklies BUSQUEDA, OPINAR, and AQUI. The weekly SEMANA URUGUAYA, which was authorized to publish after begin subjected to censorship, began circulating today. Meanwhile, JAQUE had to change its circulation plans. Its publishers hope that the weekly will circulate tomorrow.

RADIO STATION RESUMES TRANSMISSIONS 16 JANUARY

PY171119 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1929 GMT 16 Jan 84

[Excerpt] Montevideo, 16 Jan (EFE) -- Radio CX30 La Radio, which was closed by the Uruguayan military regime 1 month ago, will resume transmissions tonight when the coercive measures imposed by the government expire.

Journalist Jose German Araujo, director of La Radio, stated during a press conference that tonight's CX30 program will be carried live by more than 100 international radio stations. Araujo said that Spanish, Colombian, Mexican, Argentine, Swedish, Dutch, Italian, and U.S. radio stations have requested connections at 2210 (0110 GMT) and that they will carry live the first 15 minutes of the opening program. The journalist said that this is "a clear expression of international solidarity" against the coercion imposed by the Uruguayan military regime.

Announcing the resumption of transmissions, Araujo said that "the radio will continue the same policy, and we will increase our efforts to satisfy the people, who compel us to improve more and more."

STUDENTS DEMONSTRATE AT U.S. EMBASSY 18 JAN

PA192014 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 19 Jan 84 p 8-C

[Article by Alfonso Barria Blanco]

[Text] A group of some 30 students representing various student organizations yesterday gathered at the U.S. Embassy to protest U.S. intervention in the Central American area, and in support of the action taken by young Rolando A. Perez Palomino, who immolated himself in protest against the U.S. Government.

The students, carrying posters and shouting slogans rejecting U.S. intervention in Central America, started the demonstration at about 1745 at the Lottery Plaza. They later marched peacefully to the U.S. Embassy.

On arriving at the embassy, and taking the few Defense Forces members who were protecting the embassy by surprise, the students suddenly started hurling bottles of paint at the embassy buildings.

The demonstrators fled immediately thereafter under pursuit by Panama Defense Forces patrol cars, which were not prepared for the action taken by the students.

Some of the demonstrators hid behind the Children's Hospital buildings, while the rest fled to different parts of the city. It seems that the policemen, according to statements by some of them, had no specific orders to make arrests. They were only to ensure that everything was done peacefully.

LA PRENSA has been told by unofficial sources that three of the demonstrators were arrested by the Defense Forces, but the names of these students have not been announced.

UNIVERSITY COUNCIL TO PROBE STUDENT DISORDERS

PA200250 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 19 Jan 84

[Text] The Academic Council of Panama University met urgently today and declared itself in permanent session to review a number of incidents that have taken place on the university campus recently.

This week newswoman Omaira Correa was forcibly prevented from delivering a speech at the university. Last night, a group of students of the School of Social Communications, led by student Cesar Best, who is apparently disgruntled because he has lost control of the school's student association, violently broke into the faculty room, ate some of the food that was going to be served during a ceremony, and littered the room with the remaining food.

Later, the group instigated the burning of three U.S. Army vehicles that entered the yard of the School of Humanities because they had supposedly been invited to take a music group somewhere. The university's regulations ban military vehicles, even those of the National Defense Force, from entering the university campus. No one knows who asked the U.S. Southern Command to provide the transportation, because the university currently has enough vehicles.

Shortly before, five students had been arrested in the vicinity of the U.S. Embassy, at which they hurled bottles of paint to protest U.S. policy in the region.

EDITORIAL PRAISES REAGAN'S BID FOR PEACE

PA191931 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 19 Jan 84 p 4

[Editorial: "President Reagan and Peace"]

[Text] The hope for peace held out by U.S. President Ronald Reagan has not been matched by the Russians. We truly believe that President Reagan's words are both sincere and timely.

But the Soviets will continue to play at war, given their incredible fate, which is to impair peace.

Let it be clearly understood that we are not against the great Russian people. We are opposed to the immense interests of Soviet imperialism, which disguises itself by wearing a sheepskin of propaganda, in an act of treason against mankind.

In the name of a socialism that they do not practice, they intend to seize the world's wealth and to interfere heartlessly in the lives of nations, all in the name of freedom.

That is why one must acknowledge that these arrogant inhabitants of the earth are to be rejected, because they are as ill-fated as a curse.

There is an adage that says: May God save us from a communist in power. The fact is that they will forget everything, even their own family and friends, and always in defense of a freedom that they do not profess.

On this occasion, the truth is with President Reagan, and we all must support him with sincerity.

FOREIGN MINISTER ADDRESSES UN SECRETARY GENERAL

PA191640 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 19 Jan 84 pp A-1, A-10

["Text" of message sent by Panamanian Foreign Minister Oyden Ortega Duran to Javier Perez de Cuellar, secretary general of the United Nations; dated 17 January]

[Text] Excellency, Dr Javier Perez de Cuellar, secretary general of the United Nations, New York, N.Y.:

In my position as foreign minister of the Republic of Panama, a member country of the Contadora Group, I thank Your Excellency for your statement of 9 January in commemoration of the first anniversary of the Contadora Group.

Panama feels encouraged by your expressions of support, and your faith in the Contadora Group's efforts. Your voice of encouragement, which reflects the feeling of the international community, inspires us to persevere in the efforts that we have initiated in favor of peace, stability, and cooperation in Central America.

Your Excellency's statement is even more significant and timely because it comes at a time when a new step toward peace in Central America has been taken with the approval of the rules necessary to execution of the commitments assumed in the Document of Objectives.

I reiterate to Your Excellency the assurances of my highest regard.

Oyden Ortega Duran,

Minister of Foreign Affairs

Panama City, 17 January 1984

BELIZE

PRICE DENIES RIFT CAUSED CABINET RESHUFFLE

FL192210 Bridgetown CANA in English 1844 GMT 19 Jan 84

[Excerpts] Belmopan, Belize, Jan 19 (CANA) -- Belize's Prime Minister George Price last night announced further changes in his cabinet, reshuffled less than two weeks ago. The announcement, in an address over Radio Belize, followed what the press here said, was a row between conservatives and leftists in the cabinet over the reallocation of portfolios on January 9 -- reports denied by the government. Price said he was switching responsibility for establishment matters from himself to Local Government Minister Louis Sylvestre, who also takes charge of broadcasting.

Before the first reshuffle, Sylvestre had been energy and communications minister, and political sources said the change meant a demotion. Last week Sylvestre was also given responsibility for the national fire and prison services, but these have now been switched to Vernon Courtenay, appointed foreign minister and attorney general last week. Courtenay had been minister of state. Last night Price said Courtenay's responsibilities include home affairs (under which the police service falls) and information. He had also been responsible for broadcasting from last week. The first set of changes in the cabinet were made shortly after Price's deputy, Attorney General and Defence Minister Carl Rogers, resigned on health grounds. Price is yet to name a deputy prime minister.

COSTA RICA

GUTIERREZ SAYS 'DIALOGUE' ONLY SALVADORAN SOLUTION

PA200228 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] Costa Rican Foreign Minister Carlos Jose Gutierrez thinks that Fidel Castro's opinion on the possibility that the guerrilla groups will defeat the Salvadoran Armed Forces is wishful thinking. The head of Costa Rica's foreign policy believes that an open and frank dialogue would be the most effective way to end the interminable war in El Salvador.

The foreign minister spoke by telephone with his Salvadoran counterpart, Fidel Chavez Mena, during the latter's brief visit to Costa Rica at noon today. Chavez Mena reported that he talked with the news media concerning the situation in his country. Regarding the Salvadoran Armed Forces, Chavez Mena asserted that there is no possibility of collapse, despite the setbacks received late last year.

Expressing his personal viewpoint, Foreign Minister Carlos Jose Gutierrez said: I believe that the war in El Salvador will continue, because a war ends with a military victory or for lack of economic support. In this regard, the foreign minister said that both the Salvadoran Armed Forces and the guerrilla groups have the economic support of a superpower. Thus, if we look at it from this viewpoint, the war will last indefinitely.

Gutierrez recalled that he once said the tragedy could reach such proportions that it would solve El Salvador's demographic problems, in the worst way. Therefore, the only way to solve El Salvador's problem is through dialogue. He recalled that this has been the position of President Monge's administration and the National Liberation Party since 1980.

ECONOMY MINISTER REPORTS ON L.A. TRADE MEETING

PA191819 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 19 Jan 84

[Text] The Latin American economy ministers and central bank presidents, who met in San Salvador on Wednesday, have recommended the elimination of trade restrictions in the region.

According to Economy and Commerce Minister Marco Antonio Lopez, who returned to Costa Rica yesterday afternoon, a working group was organized that will prepare a declaration in the next 3 weeks to be announced in a meeting to take place in about a month.

In recent months the CACAM has encountered a serious crisis, which caused Salvadoran President Alvaro Magana to call the meeting. Lopez added that 80 percent of the region's trade is currently paralyzed because the governments of all countries, with the exception of Costa Rica, have unilaterally decided to close their borders. Lopez pointed out that during the meeting the delegates stressed the need to give priority to Central American products, as opposed to those produced outside the area. Lopez also added: The economy ministers and central bank presidents have agreed that the CACM is very important. A conclusion was finally reached noting that the area depends on this market, which has experienced a decline in recent years. This situation has not harmed Costa Rica, which has increased its exports to this area.

Lopez said in conclusion that the Central American countries must remain under CACM's protection since the chances for trade with other areas are very limited.

EMBASSY IN JERUSALEM ROBBED; PROTEST ISSUED

PA191741 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 19 Jan 84

[Text] The Costa Rican Embassy was robbed during Ambassador Karen Olsen's absence. Passports, checks, valuable documents, and coded correspondence were stolen.

The theft was reported to the Costa Rican Foreign Ministry some days ago, upon Ambassador Olsen's return to Israel. The Foreign Ministry sent a protest note to the Israeli Government.

The Costa Rican Government is concerned that, at the time, its embassy lacked the necessary security precautions established by international law, specifically the Vienna agreement on diplomatic relations, the note added.

Costa Rican Foreign Minister Carlos Jose Gutierrez' note to the Israeli ambassador in San Jose added that the Costa Rican Government deplores the incident at its embassy in Israel, and hopes that the Israeli Government will adopt the necessary measures to prevent a repetition of such incidents.

Furthermore, the Foreign Ministry has asked the Israeli Government to begin an investigation into the incident so that the perpetrators can be found and punished. Ambassador Olsen returned to Israel 3 weeks ago, announcing that she had resigned her position due to lack of support for her mission. Mrs Olsen had announced a social development program for poverty-stricken areas before returning to Israel.

EL SALVADOR

'SOCIAL ROOTS' OF CONFLICT STRESSED; U.S. AID HIT

PA200131 San Salvador La Voz Panamericana in Spanish 1900 GMT 18 Jan 84

["Before the National Conscience" program of the Salvadoran Human Rights Commission: "Multimillion Dollar Escalation in Military Aid"]

[Text] While the U.S. Government is substantially reducing expenditures for domestic social welfare plans, President Ronald Reagan has announced he will ask Congress for $600 million in military aid for the Salvadoran Government over the next 2 years.

U.S. Government officials have said that President Reagan could ask Congress for $250 million for 1984 and $350 million for 1985. The $64 million already approved for military aid for the Salvadoran Government is not included in these figures.

Last week the Kissinger commission recommended an immediate and substantial increase in military and economic aid for Central America, including an $8-billion aid plan for the next 5 years.

Regarding El Salvador, the Kissinger commission recommended that any aid to the Salvadoran Government be conditional on an improvement in its respect for human rights.

It is obvious that the U.S. Government, in line with its obstinate anticommunist policy, will give the Salvadoran Government millions in military aid until it defeats the FMLN-FDR, even if it is necessary to prolong and regionalize the conflict. It will mean millions for bombs, planes, and cannons. Morally this is not right. It is false that Central America is about to become communist. We are not a threat to U.S. national security. Our conflict, which has deep economic and social roots, is not a threat to the hemisphere's security.

The U.S. Government has given abundant aid to the Salvadoran Government, approximately $1.5 billion in 5 years. Now the U.S. State Department has threatened to invade El Salvador if there is any chance of the FMLN defeating the Salvadoran Armed Forces.

Honduras has virtually become a U.S. military base for a probable invasion of Nicaragua or El Salvador, or of both countries at the same time.

It has been said that if El Salvador falls, there will be a crisis in Honduras, Guatemala, Costa Rica, and other neighboring countries. This is ridiculous.

Messrs U.S. Government officials, the serious conflict our society is facing is the result of 50 years of social, economic, and political injustice. Try to understand that we are not determining U.S. or Soviet interests. What is at stake here is the Salvadoran people's progress and happiness, the winning of democracy, and an end to the injustice, oppression, and backwardness that totalitarian governments have imposed for years without any consideration for the country or the people. This is the fundamental problem they will never solve, even if President Reagan invests $600 million or $1 billion in military aid for the Salvadoran Government.

The situation is clear. The conflict has social roots, and there is only one solution: a political solution through dialogue and negotiation.

El Salvador is about to become another Vietnam. The U.S. Government is to blame if our internal conflict takes on such a magnitude.

COPREFA REPORTS DISCOVERY OF 107 GUERRILLA BODIES

PA200012 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1730 GMT 19 Jan 84

[Communique issued by the Armed Forces Press Committee, COPREFA, on 18 January in San Salvador]

[Text] COPREFA reports that the bodies of 107 terrorists, with all their equipment, have been found by residents of (?Los Teraza), Santa Rita Municipality, Chalatenango Department.

According to the residents of the area, last Sunday they found the bodies of five extremists near (?Los Teraza) canton, and when they walked farther they found another 102 terrorists dead in a gully, a few meters from where they found the first bodies. We were frightened to see so many dead bodies, with all their equipment, the residents of the area said.

Apparently the extremists were killed in a clash with members of the 4th Brigade, who were supported by Air Force bombing. We wish to highlist the efforts that the 4th Brigade is making in conducting antiterrorist operations.

Meanwhile, three more FMLN terrorists were killed yesterday by a patrol of the 3d Infantry Brigade, headquartered in San Miguel, when it ran into a terrorist band near La Puerta, a village in La Puerta canton, San Miguel municipality. The Army did not have any casualties.

FDR'S RIVAS ON KISSINGER REPORT, POLITICAL PLANS

PA191432 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 19 Jan 84

[Text] FDR leader Dr Ruben Zamora Rivas said at a news conference held in Mexico that the report released by the so-called Kissinger commission on Central America does not include any new solution to the conflict. According to Zamora Rivas, the report is simply a continuation of the Reagan administration's warmongering policy. He added that he does not believe that the Kissinger commission's report has achieved a bipartisan consensus.

Meanwhile, FDR President Guillermo Manuel Ungo has announced that in the next few days, the FMLN and FDR will reveal a plan for a political solution designed to end the war in our country. According to Doctor Ungo, the proposal calls for the creation of a provisional government and free elections.

POW ARMY OFFICER PRAISES TREATMENT UNDER FMLN

PA191506 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 19 Jan 84

[Excerpt] Here is an interview with a Salvadoran Army officer, Lieutenant (Carlos Eliseo Rodriguez Murcia), who was captured with five NCO's and his entire company at the garrison in Anamoros, La Union Department. This is the testimony of someone who has seen the war both from within the Army and from this side, as a prisoner of war of the FMLN.

[Begin (Rodriguez Murcia) recording] I am Lt (Carlos Eliseo Rodriguez Murcia), commander of the unit captured in the city of Anamoros, in northern La Union Department, along with 135 troops and 5 cadets. For 51 days now I have been a prisoner in Morazan Department, under the FMLN's control.

I have witnessed the treatment given prisoners of war, the respect shown for their lives, and their morale. I have also witnessed the combative moral of the FMLN's troops.

I heard the news about the victory at Cacaguatique Volcano, which was defended by a small battalion. In about 8 hours of fighting, the FMLN dislodged the troops from positions that were regarded as strategic. Later, I heard about the seizure of the brigade at El Paraiso. This made the war situation quite delicate. After this came the destruction of the bridge over the Lempa River, the Cuscatlan Bridge, which was being defended by I don't know how many troops. However, after a few hours of fighting, during which the [name indistinct] Battalion was dislodged, its positions were attacked and the bridge was destroyed.

I think that the country's current political and military situation has taken a turn in favor of the FSLN.

I am making this statement without any pressure, moved only by the desire to provide some idea of my experiences while I have been with the FMLN. [end recording]

GUATEMALA

ELECTORAL LAW ANNOUNCED; 1 JULY ELECTIONS SET

PA200253 Paris AFP in Spanish 0003 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] Guatemala City, 19 Jan (AFP) -- It has been officially announced that the new electoral law made public today by the Guatemalan Military Government will guide the country's return to institutional life and the elections for the constituent assembly on 1 July 1984.

It is expected that Guatemalan Chief of State General Oscar Humberto Mejia Victores will issue the call to elections for a constituent assembly tomorrow, Friday. According to the law made public today, after almost 45 days of discussion and debate, the constituent assembly will not have legislative authority or the power to appoint a provisional president.

The new law establishes that the assembly will be responsible for "drafting the constitution" and certain laws, among them the electoral law, the law on constitutional guarantees, the habeas corpus law, and the constitutionality [constitucionalidad] law.

The constituent assembly will be comprised of 88 deputies; 23 of these will be selected from national lists, and 65 by electoral districts. The assembly will be installed "before 31 August 1984" and will begin operating immediately upon installation.

The possibility of the constituent assembly appointing a provisional president, as was the case in El Salvador, was rejected by General Mejia Victores, who has promised to hand over the office of president in 1985 to the person "chosen by popular vote," although no date has been set for this event.

The bill drafted by the Electoral Supreme Tribunal, the highest ranking authority in the electoral process about to begin, was strongly criticized by leaders of political parties, who in the end were able to introduce many amendments to the bill.

HONDURAS

JOINT MILITARY BASE WITH U.S. UNDER DISCUSSION

PA192243 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1637 GMT 19 Jan 84

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 19 Jan (ACAN-EFE) -- The Honduran Armed Forces and the U.S. Army are still discussing the installation of a permanent joint military base, according to Colonel Cesar Elvir Sierra, chief of the Honduran Army's public relations office. He said that if the installation of the military base is approved, it will have to conform to Honduran laws and procedures.

Reports from Washington claim that the base to be installed in Honduras would have the same dimensions as the Guantanamo base in Cuba, and that its cost might run to $160 million.

Elvir Sierra said: "I cannot give you any details about the base, because I do not have the information; besides, there is no agreement on the matter yet."

General Gustavo Alvarez Martinez, chief of the Honduran Armed Forces, in September announced the possible installation of a joint U.S.-Honduran base in the Puerto Castilla area, on the Honduran Atlantic coast.

MINISTRY DISPUTES SALVADORAN SOVEREIGNTY LAWS

PA200041 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 19 Jan 84

[Communique released by the Honduran Foreign Secretariat Information and Press Directorate in Tegucigalpa on 18 January]

[Text] The Honduran Foreign Secretariat announces to the national and international public that on 13 January 1984 Foreign Secretary Dr Edgardo Paz Barnica addressed a note to Salvadoran Foreign Minister Dr Fidel Chavez Mena stating Honduras' position on some of the provisions contained in Article 84 of the Salvadoran Constitution issued on 15 December 1983, and (?asking about) those concepts deemed harmful to our country's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

1. Regarding what is set forth in Paragraph 1 of Article 84 of the Salvadoran Constitution -- which states the territory over which El Salvador exercises irreducible jurisdiction and sovereignty -- the concept of irreducibility is not accepted by Honduras, because (?this) territory cannot be regarded as irreducible since its limits have not yet been completely defined with regard to the Honduran border, as there are zones in controversy over which our country claims territorial sovereignty and has never recognized [words indistinct] jurisdiction and sovereignty over them. The general peace treaty signed by our two governments acknowledges the existence of zones in controversy and establishes the procedures for reaching a definitive agreement with regard to them. This is incompatible with the concept of irreducibility set forth in the Salvadoran Constitution, according to which [words indistinct] treaties take priority over national laws.

2. As for the assertion contained in Paragraph 2 of Article 84, that in addition to its continental zone Salvadoran territory includes the insular territory that comprises the islands, islets, and keys that the Central American Court of Justice dictated on 9 March [year indistinct], which also belong to El Salvador in accordance with other sources of international law, along with other islands, islets, and keys that also belong to El Salvador in accordance with international law, the Honduran Government has stated in its protest note that for the Honduran state, this assertion is unacceptable.

This assertion seeks to base Salvadoran sovereignty over an insular territory on a ruling handed down by the Central American Court of Justice in a litigation that El Salvador initiated against Nicaragua, in which Honduras did not participate, so that this ruling is not binding on Honduras. [sentence as heard] At the time, the Honduran Government protested to the Salvadoran Foreign Ministry and made express reserve [reserva expresa] of its rights over the maritime areas and the islands. In the note sent on 13 January, Honduras stressed that it has neither recognized nor does it recognize at present the claims that the Salvadoran Government may have expressed, or might express in the future, in this regard. It simply reiterated that the determination of the situation [words indistinct] and of the maritime areas [words indistinct] must be resolved through the strict observance of the provisions set forth in the general peace treaty.

3. With regard to what is set forth in Paragraph 3 of Article 84 -- which states: The territorial waters and those held jointly in the Gulf of Fonseca, which is a historic bay with the characteristics of a closed sea, the regulation of which is determined by international law and by the ruling mentioned in the above paragraph -- the Honduran Government indicated in the protest loged with the Salvadoran Government that there is not [words indistinct] between our two states for the Gulf of Fonseca, and that it cannot accept the idea that the above-mentioned ruling could have established some other type of procedure to the detriment of Honduran rights.

4. Concerning the assertion contained in Paragraphs 8 and 9 of Article 84 to the effect that El Salvador's borders to the east [words indistinct] with Honduras and Nicaragua in the waters of the Gulf of Fonseca, and to the south on the Pacific Ocean, the Honduran Government in its protest note stressed that this alleged adjacent condition has never been accepted by Honduras because Honduras' islands, islets, and keys lie between El Salvador and Nicaragua, as well as the Honduran seabed [lecho] maritime areas in the Gulf of Fonseca and the Pacific Ocean, the territorial sea, the adjacent zone [zona contigua] the exclusive economic zone, and the continental shelf, which have not yet been delimited with El Salvador in accordance with the general peace treaty.

5. The Honduran Government has also indicated to the Salvadoran Government that the procedures for delimiting the zones in controversy between the two states have been established in the general peace treaty, for which reason Honduras cannot accept Paragraph 7 [words indistinct] Article 84, which states [words indistinct] in accordance with any means for the peaceful solution of international controversies. The assertion contained in this provision is not in accordance with the full acknowledgement of the compulsory nature and efficacy of our treaty, [words indistinct] the above-mentioned Article 84.

FUSEP CHARGES 3 DETECTIVES WITH MURDER OF STUDENT

PA191510 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 18 Jan 84

[Official bulletin issued by the Honduran Public Security Force, FUSEP; date and place not given]

[Text] FUSEP Commander Brigadier General Daniel Bali Castillo reports to the university community and the people of the nation that after careful investigation, detectives Carlos Alfredo Martinez, Tranquilino Montes, and Marcos Hernandez from the Department of National Investigation [DIN] have been accused of being responsible for the death of Raul Omar Vasquez Amaya, a university student.

As soon as the results of the investigation were known, the authorities ordered the arrest of these three detectives and turned them over to a court, so that the full weight of the law may be applied to them if they are found guilty.

The commander of FUSEP regrets this incident and takes advantage of this opportunity to reiterate that he will firmly punish any FUSEP officer who violates the laws of the Republic or who acts against the people's life, security, and property.

NICARAGUA

STATE SECURITY OFFICER REPORTS 'CONTRA' ATTACKS

PA200010 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 19 Jan 84

[Text] There have recently been 21 violations of national airspace and 10 attacks on fishing boats perpetrated by the counterrevolution in Special Zone No 1 of northern Zelaya. This was announced by Captain (Alvaro Herrera), commander of the State Security forces in the area. He added that the counterrevolutionaries organized in MISURA [Miskitos, Sumus, Ramas] and ARDE [Democratic Revolutionary Alliance], led by Steadman Fagoth and Brooklyn Rivera, are trying to reorganize their internal front. [sentence as heard] The counterrevolutionaries' goal is to take over Puerto Cabezas and request foreign aid, primarily from the United States. Forces of the Sandinist People's Army and the Nicaraguan Interior Ministry have inflicted 60 casualties on the enemy, Captain (Herrera) said. He added that 27 contras were killed by year-end near the area of Cabo Viejo. Fourteen others were killed in the area of Francia Sirpe, after the contras -- supported by U.S. imperialism -- kidnapped several citizens.

(Herrera) said that during the first week of January 30 counterrevolutionaries were killed in the community of Waspan. Two others were killed this week in Lapan, including a leader specialized in jungle warfare who had raped and killed Miskito citizens. After reporting on the counterrevolutionary activities, Captain (Herrera) showed the U.S.-made weapons recovered by his man. He also showed the religious books used by the contras to deceive the people.

'POLITICAL DEBATES' PROGRAM DISCUSSES ELECTIONS

PA171919 Managua Radio Noticias in Spanish 0230 GMT 17 Jan 84

["Political Debates" program of the Patriotic Front of the Revolution, FPR, with Gustavo Tablada, coordinator of the FPR; Mauricio Diaz Davila, secretary general of the Popular Social Christian Party, PPSC; Cesar Delgadillo Machado and Luis Humberto Guzman of the PPSC; Virgilio Godoy, president of the Independent Liberal Party, PLI; Orlando Quinonez and Lombardo Martinez of the PLI; Deputy Commander Rafael Solis, representing the FSLN; Adolfo Evertsz of the Nicaraguan Socialist Party, PSN; and an unidentified moderator -- live]

[Excerpts] [Moderator] A controversy has arisen over the apparent position adopted by the parties that support the revolutionary leadership to participate individually in the elections, while the opposition sectors are considering the possibility of forming a united bloc for the elections. Let's hear FPR [Patriotic Front of the Revolution] Coordinator Gustavo Tablada.

[Tablada] On Saturday Commander of the Revolution Carlos Nunez, as chairman of the State Council Electoral Commission, announced some important political aspects dealing with the electoral law that the State Council is going to begin to discuss and approve so that it can become the framework for the electoral process in 1985.

Some parties of the FPR have been analyzing the political situation and the need to make some serious decisions regarding direct participation in the electoral process in our country. Some of the parties that comprise the FPR alliance believe that the parties can participate in the elections in an independent manner without in any way weakening this democratic and revolutionary alliance established in 1980. The participants in tonight's program, who are quite representative of the FPR members, will be expressing views on this topic. We will also answer questions from radio listeners, as we have been doing on the "Political Debates" program.

[Moderator] Over the weekend we heard the announcement that the FPR member parties are going to participate individually in the next elections. We remember that in past appearances by the political leaders who are here tonight, when we asked about what positions they had adopted, the PSN [Nicaraguan Socialist Party] and the PPSC [Popular Social Christian Party] said they had officially decided to participate in the elections as a bloc. This was stated by Mauricio Diaz Davila and Adolfo Evertsz, who are present tonight. Why this change in policy? Mauricio Diaz Davila will reply.

[Diaz Davila] First of all, let me say that nothing is final or totally definite in politics. We thought it was important to participate as a bloc because of the way the opposition political parties would participate. Our view was that to the extent those parties would decide to participate in blocs, the FPR parties should also participate in blocs. Given the situation that Nicaragua is experiencing, and after analyzing the proposal of the State Council's Electoral Commission, to which we belong, and after carrying out an internal political analysis in our party, we have reached some conclusions that we could briefly summarize as follows: First of all, we believe that individual participation would be positive for the maintenance and existence of political pluralism in Nicaragua. This individual participation would prevent the social polarization that has been taking place as a result of the transformations that the revolution has been introducing during these years of revolutionary process. We also believe that the party is still identified with the great strategic principles of the revolution. We believe that the FPR can and should exist, because it is not an alliance that was created solely for electoral purposes. The FPR was not created as an electoral alliance. Instead, it was created for the defense, the strengthening, and the deepening of the revolutionary transformations.

From the viewpoint of the electoral process itself, we believe it will be beneficial for our party to criticize, from outside the alliance, the revolutionary government's conduct in these first years. It will be a deeper and greater criticism, from a truly fraternal standpoint. We believe that participation in the elections while being tied or joined to the FPR would create some problems with regard to making the necessary criticisms for the improvement of the revolutionary government and for the defense of our own political and government program.

[Moderator] It has been heard in our political circles that the FSLN adopted very important decisions at a recent meeting of its Sandinist Assembly. Many of these decisions are gradually being made known. We would like Deputy Commander Rafael Solis, representative of the FSLN on this program, to tell our listeners about these decisions and the way they are affecting the elections.

[Solis] What Commander Nunez stated on Saturday, 14 January reflects the consensus which the FLSN has tried to glean from the stances of the other parties. The proposal made on Saturday is nothing but a proposal to be discussed essentially among the FSLN and the allied parties. It does not entail final decisions that cannot be changed in each and every one of its points, although obviously with regard to its fundamental points we believe that they reflect the views expressed by all the political parties. Regarding the FPR, we agree with what Mauricio Diaz said, in the sense that the FPR is not an electoral alliance but a strategic alliance.

Independent of the final decision on whether or not to participate in the elections individually, the FPR must be maintained because its nature is unique. It is a project of the revolution over a longer term. Each of the parties might feel it is more advisable to go to the elections alone, or perhaps they will decide to go alone in some cases and jointly in others. These matters are still pending discussion. Perhaps they can participate together but not exactly hand in hand. That would involve a mature political position on the part of the parties around a revolutionary project as a whole. Each party can have a different position on various aspects of the revolution, but with regard to the parties' participation in the electoral process, what we don't believe is that overnight a party that has been with the revolutionary process can assume a frontal position against the revolution. That would be a different story. That would be different. But the fact that they would participate in the elections with their own program based on the revolutionary process and with independent views does not mean the disintegration or breakup of the FPR.

[Moderator] We will now hear PLI [Independent Liberal Party] President Virgilio Godoy's views.

[Godoy] In 1980 the PLI's National Assembly authorized our participation in the FPR, but as I have said on several occasions this at no time meant a carte blanche for the board of directors to decide on any kind of electoral alliance.

We said once before that the FPR functioned like an umbrella with three rods. Those three rods were the allied parties. The umbrella opened and closed in accordance with the decision of the center, the pivot to which those three rods were supposedly linked. We were told this was a metaphor. This was a graphic description of reality. In any case, it is evident that in view of the announcements made on Saturday, the FPR necessarily has to suffer the results and consequences of these announcements. Now it is clear that the FSLN will run alone.

[Solis] Commander Nunez was asked in the news conference whether the FSLN was going to run alone. The text of his reply is published today in LA PRENSA, and has also been published in BARRICADA and EL NUEVO DIARIO. He clearly said that all the situations that might arise have to be considered before making that decision. In principle we considered that in view of a number of situations, and the analysis of the current situation, and taking into account the decisions of the other parties, we would consider the possiblity of running alone. But if one reads the text of the reply, it was not a categorical answer in the sense that a decision was made to run alone. In addition, even if theat were to be the decision, it should be decided jointly within the FPR, rather than being decided unilaterally.

[Moderator] Questions arose from the moment it was said that the political parties supporting the revolutionary leadership might run alone in the elections. Will the parties which support that leadership -- the PPSC, the PSN, and the PLI -- have their own presidential candidates, or will they support the FSLN presidential candidate? We haven't heard anything tonight from Cesar Delgadillo Machado of the PPSC.

[Delgadillo] Well, the PPSC has not yet thought about candidates, candidacies, or anything of the sort. We have been analyzing how we will participate in the elections that have more or less been announced by Commander Carlos Nunez.

[Tablada] What exists so far is a general proposal on the draft of the electoral law.

It is a proposal summarizing all the different ideas contributed by eight of Nicaragua's political parties regarding what the electoral law should be. The electoral law will be discussed by the State Council and will logically undergo some changes based on the arguments that each party, each member of the organizations represented in the State Council, introduces. Once approved by the State Council, it will specifically and definitively outline the way the elections will be held in our country. The appropriate decisions will then have to be made. It is at that time that the political parties, including those comprising the FPR, will make their definite and specific decisions on how they will participate in the elections.

[Diaz Davila] Before answering the question, I would like to clarify to Freddy [first name of moderator] and to the listeners that the FRP parties, at least in our case, support the revolution, not the leadership. When the moderator asked the question, he spoke about the parties supporting the leadership. I think these are two different things. From the inception of the FRP we have supported the Nicaraguan revolution, and we have criticized the errors committed by the leadership when there have been errors. Regarding the issue of candidacies, we, as a party, are thinking of proposing our own candidates for the legislative assembly. At this time we, as a party, are making our own diagnosis and an inventory of our resources, our membership, and our rank-and-file with an eye to presenting 90 candidacies for the legislative assembly in the various regions of the country. As for the presidency, the party has not yet decided on candidates. We will have to make that decision later. If we don't present our own candidate, we will support an independent figure, with his own personality and thought, in line with the demands involved in leading a country like ours, which has achieved a quite advanced revolutionary development. We will be making these decisions very soon. We are planning to hold a national meeting at the end of March to decide on and outline an electoral strategy and to place the figures the party will nominate for those 1985 positions in the political arena.

[Moderator] Will the PLI present its own presidential candidate?

[Godoy] The PLI is ready for any eventuality.

[Moderator] What does the FSLN say after hearing all these ideas? We have heard a PPSC representative say that it would be good to have several vice presidents.

[Solis] Those points can be considered once the draft law begins to be discussed. If the allied parties' final decision is to run alone, it is very clear that they have the option to either run with their own candidates or to consider different options. The great advantage of having proposed holding presidential and legislative elections is that the parties can participate in different ways; some could support our presidential candidate and have their own legislative candidates; some might want to run their own presidential and legislative candidates. These are options from which each party is free to select. We are not proposing a decision to them involving their support for all the candidacies, both presidential and legislative. The discussion of all this is still pending. We think the important thing, as we said before -- and on this we disagree with Mauricio -- is that the revolutionary leadership and the revolution definitely and necessarily imply a single unity within a revolutionary process. You cannot say what some parties of the [Ramiro Sacasa Democratic] Coordinating Board have been calmly saying. They have been saying that they are with the revolution but against the leadership. Of course, Mauricio did not say it in that sense, but within a spirit of constructive criticism of the errors that might have been committed. But for us, the revolution and the revolutionary leadership must mean one unified thing, independent of the fact that within a revolutionary process one has to learn form errors and to overcome those errors. There should be no confusion about this.

[Moderator] Sub-commander Solis, this morning Radio Reloj of Costa Rica said that the FSLN has selected its presidential and vice presidential candidates, adding that these are Commander Daniel Ortega for president and Sergio Ramirez Mercado for vice president. What can you tell us about this?

[Solis] This is mere speculation. There will be lots of speculation before the FSLN names its candidates. No decision has yet been adopted.

[Moderator] Dr Quinonez, what are your views on the subjects being debated here tonight?

[Quinonez] The truth is that the problem of an alliance must be viewed from other standpoints. I believe that the FSLN must decide whether it will form an alliance with other parties. The FSLN is the strong party in this country, and it would be up to it to choose its allies. I don't know if the PPSC could choose the FSLN as its ally. That would be difficult to know. However, the PLI will have to adopt its own decisions. I do believe that the FSLN must have the first word on the subject of an alliance.

[Moderator] Adolfo Evertsz has not yet told us whether the PSN will participate in the elections with its own candidate or whether it would support the FSLN's candidate.

[Evertsz] We have already mentioned that in the next few weeks we will call a meeting of the Central Committee -- the party's highest authority -- to decide how our party will participate in the elections. There is no doubt about our participation in the elections, but how and with whom can only be answered by the Central Committee.

[Moderator] The following is a question that could be addressed to all of you. As you know, the questions we ask on this program are selected from those asked by the people in general. How do the parties that comprise the FPR view the strategy or attitude adopted by the opposition parties, parties that comprise the Ramiro Sacasa Guerrero Democratic Coordinating Board and the Democratic Conservative Party of Nicaragua? Could their decision to run alone, to run separately, be an adverse factor? We have heard that the opposition parties may run as one bloc. What can you say about this, Sub-commander Solis?

[Solis] We have already said that these parties' positions are still not clear. We have the impression, from statements they have made, that they are trying, as they say, to take precautions [curando salud]. They are now trying to use several legal pretexts to deny the legitimacy of the electoral process. Of course, this strategy would only mean the final burial of the parties that may decide not to participate in the electoral process. There is no excuse for any party not to participate in the elections.

[Moderator] What does the PPSC think the opposition parties will do?

[Diaz Davila] We believe that there is a real, substantial difference between the political parties that have supported the revolution since its triumph and the opposition. We are truly facing the future. With a hopeful attitude we struggled as members of the various State Council committees to create the legislation and the necessary guarantees for a clean and pure electoral process that will also guarantee the open participation of all political organizations. But we view the opposition parties' attitude as a fatalistic one. Fatalism is truly reactionary, and they are facing the past and not even living in the present, much less facing a future. This has led them to adopt truly ambiguous and contradictory positions. On one occasion, immediately after the triumph of the revolution, they demanded democratic formalities. They demanded immediate elections.

Today, with the elections approaching, they are adopting a fatalistic and fearful attitude. As Sub-commander Solis said, they are now trying to detract from the legality of these transformations and this process of institutionalization which we are promoting in Nicaragua.

[Vargas] My name is Marta Elena Vargas, and I would like to ask PLI President Virgilio Godoy a question. Is it true that there is a split in your party? I have heard comments from some politicians who believe that a number of PLI members support the FSLN, while others support the opposition. Do you feel that a split will occur in the meeting that is to be held in February? Thank you.

[Godoy] I feel that all of this is part of the political campaign some are waging against the PLI. They would love to see the party divided, but there is no chance this will happen. As you, companera can see, [8-second break in transmission] will have an even stronger PLI, a party that is more united and more willing to face the challenges of the future.

[Moderator] Radio listeners, we have only 5 minutes left before this "Political Debates" Program must end. We wish to read some information we received shortly before the program began. LA PRENSA has published an item entitled: Electoral Opening Destroys the FPR. The item mentions a statement by (Salvador Gaitan Fonseca), a member or leader of the Independent Liberal Party, who said that the FPR is about ready to disintegrate. If this is true, we are probably participating in the last, or one of the last, "Political Debates" programs. We would like to hear from the FPR leaders. Is it true that the organization is disintegrating? Who will take this question? Diaz-Davila, Dr Tablada, Adolfo Evertsz, Sub-commander Solis, Dr Godoy? Adolfo Evertsz will begin.

[Evertsz] In our last few statements we have maintained that regardless of the way in which each of the FPR parties takes part in this first democratic electoral process in Nicaragua's history, the result will not be as described in today's issue of the newspaper LA PRENSA; that is, the political death of the FPR. We believe, and this is our party's specific belief, that the FPR alliance is not one that was created for elections or for only a few months, but is a political alliance that is focused upon a basic program of convergence that, in the opinion of our party, guarantees the alliance's growth and constantly increasing strength. Taking advantage of its 3 years of existence, the alliance must continue to improve and to grow, within the critical outlines that both alliance members and other parties have made. These criteria must result in the perfection of this alliance, if we may put it that way, which our party feels the revolutionary process needs. We think that it must gain more importance with each passing day as a reality within the political pluralism characterizing the revolutionary alliance.

[Moderator] What does PLI President Virgilio Godoy have to say that the survival or possible death of this alliance?

[Godoy] Well, there is an old saying: Renewal or death. Under the circumstances, what is now being outlined relates directly to the FPR's process of redefinition. Personally, and in this case I must speak in very personal terms, I think that the electoral campaign is moving the FPR into second place. It will probably suffer from some kind of regression or hibernation while we wait for better conditions to reappear. The mere mention of the possibility that the alliance's parties might participate in the electoral campaign with their own candidates, programs, and interests indicates that the FPR is, in my opinion, undoubtedly being forced into secondary status. Thus, the fate of the FPR will be defined in the course of the electoral debate. When fellow party member and friend Doctor (Salvador Gaitan Fonseca) said that, I did not see anything in the report to indicate that the FPR has automatically collapsed.

It is undergoing a process of reduction [disminucion] as a result of the political process in which the country is immersed, particularly following the statements made by the FSLN representatives last Saturday. I think, therefore, that the course of events will decide. It will either prove me right, or something will happen to revive the FPR and give it the role that it was supposed to play from the outset, while the country goes through a process of transformation.

[Moderator] What does the FSLN representative have to say?

[Solis] Well, I think that the statement made by (Gaitan) and supported by Godoy reflects a personal opinion, because the PLI has not made a decision in this regard. However, (Gaitan) has said that the FPR will conclude its functions once the electoral process begins on 31 January. Of course, this view evolves from the characteristics he attributes to the process itself in terms of the participation of the parties, which he feels should participate on an individual basis, etc. However, despite this situation, we reiterate what we said earlier, which is that the FPR might be even stronger after the elections, based on the strength that each party -- if indeed they participate individually -- might show within the electoral process. We do not overlook this: The alliance could actually become stronger through an electoral process in which the parties that support the revolution obtain a majority of the votes. In saying this, I am not only referring to our party, the FSLN, but also to the votes that other parties, which represent different sectors of society, and whose programs might be more in accordance with these sectors, might obtain.

The survival of the FPR will, of course, depend upon what happens after the electoral process. If (?after the vote count) the other FPR parties that participated on their own cannot obtain the minimal number of votes to gain support, strength, and authority over our population -- due to the process itself and not because we would want it that way -- the FPR could perhaps [words indistinct] engage in other kinds of activities, considering that these will be the first elections.

However, this does not mean or imply the disintegration of the FPR. We would have to consider ways that the FPR may participate in various activities within the revolution's starategy, as has been the case to date. The FPR has not yet carried out any electoral activity and yet it has a life of its own and it works, too. It could be strengthened following the elections, perhaps even based on an alliance, not necessarily under the conditions described here involving consultation and coordination, but an even stronger alliance, with responsibilities within a coalition government that could be created after the elections.

[Moderator] During the final moments of this broadcast, Cesar Delgadillo Marchado of the Popular Social Christian Party will speak.

[Delgadillo] We think that the FPR can become stronger after the elections. We could say that we share the opinion of Virgilio Godoy, Sub-commander Solis, and Adolfo Evertsz. However, we also want to say that we see the FPR as the conscience of the revolutionary process. It is the guard, the one that must criticize government procedures, the one that must be ready to tell the different organizations that comprise it what mistakes have been made and how they can be corrected. During the electoral process, it will be interesting to observe the participation of the four organizations that comprise the FPR. The only way in which an organization can leave the FPR is by joining the opposition.

UPCOMING VISIT BY SWEDEN'S PALME REPORTED

PA191527 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 19 Jan 84

[Text] Stockholm -- Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme will visit several Central American countries, including Nicaragua, in February. This information was provided in Stockholm by the prime minister's office.

Olof Palme will make an official visit to Mexico from 6 to 8 February. While there, he will meet with Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid. On 9 February, Palme will make a 1-day visit to Nicaragua, and on 10 February he will visit Costa Rica.

Palme will hold talks with government leaders in both of these countries.

RAMIREZ REAFFIRMS PLANS FOR 1985 ELECTIONS

PA191430 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 19 Jan 84

[Text] Doctor Sergio Ramirez Mercado, member of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, has once again reiterated the revolutionary government's political determination to go ahead with the electoral process, despite the attacks on Nicaragua.

In this regard, the junta member stressed that the 1985 elections will be stopped only if our country is directly invaded by the Yankees. The revolutionary leader said this at the opening of the Ruben Dario Drive. The 117th anniversary of Dario's birthday was commemorated today in the city that was named after him. Here is Dr Ramirez Mercado's statement on the electoral process:

[Begin recording] The level of the attacks on Nicaragua would be a sufficient pretext for not holding elections, since we lost over 1,000 Nicaraguan people and (?more than) $(?111) million in destroyed property last year. Still, the revolution plans to go ahead with the elctoral process, whcih would be stopped only in the event of a direct Yankee intervention here.

Otherwise, the electoral process will take place, just as the Sandinist process promised it would even before the victory of the revolution. The junta again promised in 1980, a year after that victory, that elections would be held in 1985. [end recording]

MISKITOS SURRENDER TO GOVERNMENT UNDER AMNESTY

PA190441 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 18 Jan 84

[Excerpt] Forty-seven Miskitos who had been involved in counterrevolutionary activities have been returned to their communities, where they will rejoin productive activities.

The Miskitos surrendered to the Nicaraguan authorities on 5 and 12 January, seeking protection under the amnesty decreed by our Junta of the Government of National Reconctruction in December. This demonstrates the strength of the Sandinist people's revolution.

ARDE REJECTS ELECTIONS; HITS TIES TO USSR, CUBA

PA191442 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 0000 GMT 19 Jan 84

["Communique to the Nicaraguan People and the Democratic Peoples of the World," released by the Revolutionary Directorate of the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, ARDE; date and place not given]

[Text] The announcement made by the Managua regime on 14 January 1984 of its proposal for holding elections in 1985 is a direct consequence of the pressure exerted by the thousands who are fighting and giving their lives and their blood to recover the revolution. It is also a consequence of the pressure exerted by he international community. However, it is insufficient, because the prerequisities for truly free elections do not yet exist in Nicaragua: separation of the Army from the FSLN as a party, unrestricted press freedom, the dissolution of the mobs, the full exercise of fundamental freedoms, international supervision, and the participation of all national democratic sectors in the elections. Furthermore, the FSLN's previous actions and deceptions detract considerably from the credibility of this announcement. Even several members of the Patriotic Front of the Revolution, an FSLN ally, have voiced their doubts about the Sandinist Front's intentions. If these proposals were not intended to manipulate international opinion or if they were not a tactical measure designed to gain time, as Somoza tried to do a few months before his ouster, ARDE would study the situation, since we are always willing to be part of an honorable, comprehensive, and serious political solution that would achieve peace in Nicaragua and stability in Central America.

Commander Eden Pastora, chief of the ARDE Armed Forces, spoke on the radio from the Nicaraguan mountains. He said the following to us, his militants, and to the international press: It is difficult, if not downright impossible, for the FSLN Directorate to be able to return to the original revolutionary proposals, because the commitments that it has made to both Russia and Cuba are far too great. To expect the FSLN to become democratic is like expecting Ronald Reagan to become a communist.

BRIEFS

LEFTIST NEWSPAPER -- The January issue of PRENSA proletaria has begun circulating. This is the official newspaper of the Marxist-Leninist People's Action Movement, MAP-ML, and the workers front. This 12-page issue includes various items on current events in Nicaragua. [Summary] [Managua Radio Noticias in Spanish 1200 GMT 18 Jan 84 PA]

TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICE -- The Nicaraguan Telecommunications and Postal Services [TELCOR] has announced that before the end of the month it will initiate a facsimil[e] system that permits the transmission and reproduction of printed matter by telephone. The announcement was made by the director of TELCOR. [Summary] [Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 16 Jan 84 PA]

OUR AMERICA: U.S. SCHEME TO INVADE EL SALVADOR

PA191802 Havana International Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 18 Jan 84

["Our America" commentary]

[Text] U.S. President Ronald Reagan seems to have reached the conclusion that direct military intervention in El Salvador is inevitable in 1984; thus, it is very probable that it will take place during the U.S. electoral campaign.

News media are commenting more insistently each day on the insecurity felt by members of the Salvadoran Army. Many Army members have said privately that the Army may collapse at any moment. The media also suggest that many Army officers are aware of the serious problems faced by the regime in its efforts to maintain the Army's fragile unity. In addition to its lack of fighting spirit, it has an inadequate plan for confronting the guerrilla force, and has suffered a reduction in its ranks in the last 2 years due to U.S. demands for rapid results. There are even rumors that top-ranking officers are considering taking what they can get to Miami before it is too late. This coincides with reports from U.S. diplomatic sources indicating that more families of top-ranking officers, rightist politicians, and members of the oligarchy are leaving daily for the United States.

There are U.S. ambassadors and diplomats in Central America who openly admit the need for U.S. intervention in El Salvador as soon as possible. However, some sectors in the White House do not go along with the idea of direct military intervention while the U.S. electoral campaign is in progress, believing that they have enough problems with the Middle East situation.

Despite this, the rapid deterioration in the Salvadoran Army, in contrast to the unity and effectiveness of the FMLN guerrillas, creates a situation that is profoundly worrisome to President Reagan.

Another factor of concern to the White House is the failure of Reagan's strategy calling for criticism of the death squads and some leaders of the Salvadoran extreme right wing in an effort to create a situation that would permit intervention in El Salvador during the elections, which have been scheduled for March, by a so-called peacekeeping force consisting of troops from the United States and from other Central American nations. This scheme to intervene in El Salvador to defend the moderates from the extreme rightists and the leftists rapidly evaporated when the Pentagon intelligence services arrived at the conclusion that the oligarchy and its far right political and paramilitary forces are Washington's most faithful and powerful allies at the moment. Reagan's planned request of Congress that military aid to the Salvadoran Army be increased by a factor of four demonstrates the extremely difficult situation in which the Salvadoran Army finds itself despite the advice it is receiving from U.S. counterinsurgency experts and the huge amounts of modern military aid it receives from the United States. In this context, some observers feel that in the next few weeks Reagan will resort to a series of measures that will prepare the way for intervention. These measures may include the withdrawal of U.S. diplomatic personnel who have not adapted to Washington's policies in Central America and the initiation of the first steps in consulting with the staunchest U.S. allies in Central America and the Caribbean who might be willing to create a so-called peacekeeping force. The White House also proposes to further increase regional tension and to use this as a pretext for a direct invasion by its troops of this small Central American country.

PORTUGUESE CP LEADER CUNHAL RECEIVES AWARD

FL191434 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 19 Jan 84

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Central Committee and president of the Councils of State and Ministers, last night presented the Playa Giron Order to Alvaro Cunhal, secretary general of the Portuguese Communist Party, at a formal ceremony at the Palace of the Revolution.

Jesus Montane, alternate member of the Politburo, delivered a speech briefly summarizing Cunhal's exemplary revolutionary career meriting the awarding of the prestigious order by the Council of State.

The secretary general of the Portuguese Communist Party said that the Cuban revolution is an example of universal valor, revolutionary courage, heroic struggle, and great confidence in victory in the most difficult times. Finally, Alvaro Cunhal reaffirmed to the Cuban people and to the peoples of Nicaragua, El Salvador, and all the peoples of Latin America and other parts of the world fighting for national independence that they can always count on the solidarity and active fraternity of the Portuguese Communist Party.

LATIN AMERICAN PARLIAMENT DELEGATION ARRIVES

FL200221 Havana Domestic Television in Spanish 0100 GMT 20 Jan 84

[Text] A delegation from the Latin American Parliament arrived in our country today at the invitation of the People's Government National Assembly. The delegation was greeted at the Jose Marti International Airport in Rancho Boyeros by Jose Aranaburo, secretary of the People's Government National Assembly, and other officials from that leading government group.

The members of the delegation are: (Marcos Padan Umalla), president-deputy of the Political Commission of the Latin American Parliament of Ecuador, (Gabriel Nicolas), deputy of the Latin American Parliament, (Jose Carlos Texaida), Brazilian deputy, (Agustin Parra), international affairs official from the Ecuadoran Parliament, and (Patricio Falcone), Brazilian journalist.

PEREZ HERRERO CLOSES FAR PROPAGANDA SEMINAR

FL191400 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 19 Jan 84

[Text] The work guidelines established in the party's 8th plenum resolution and key tasks and missions were analyzed at the FAR's National Seminar on Propaganda, Agitation, and Mass Cultural Work. Division General Sixto Batista, alternate member of the Politburo and chief of the FAR's Central Political Directorate; and Division General Ulises Rosales, member of the Central Committee, first FAR deputy minister, and chief of the General Staff, attended the event.

In closing the seminar, Antonio Perez Herrero, alternate member of the Politburo, noted that the country faced a complicated economic situation in 1983, and that the 6th Plenum mobilized the masses' reserves and changed the period into one of the best years for the revolution.

He stressed that 1984 shows that great tasks lie ahead demanding everybody's effort, and therefore the resolution of the 8th plenum must become a banner for the struggle and an important part in the people's activities to achieve the set goals.

PARIS PAPER CARRIES MARCHAIS-CASTRO COMMUNIQUE

PM152040 Paris L'HUMANITE in French 4 Jan 84 p 7

[Apparent text of joint PCF-Cuban declaration issued on 1 January during a visit to Cuba by PCF Secretary General Marchais: "Solidarity With the Peoples of Latin America"]

[Text] Georges Marchais and Fidel Castro believe that what characterizes the situation in this region is the strength of the aspirations to freedom and the development of the peoples' liberation movement. Their many forms of expression clash with the U.S. desire to oppose by all means any emancipation movement, including armed intervention. The peoples demand the right to emerge from poverty, to be free from the domination of oligarchies and multinationals and from the IMF's dictatorship, and they intend to determine their own future. R. Reagan's desire to keep this particularly sensitive region under domination is increasing tension and stirring up conflicts.

The recent events on the small island of Grenada have once again shown the essence of the policy of force which the United States aspires to impose in the Central American and Caribbean region. In Grenada, the most powerful capitalist country used the most sophisticated methods of war against an infinitely weaker adversary. It systematically used lies and indulged in a colossal deception and misinformation operation toward the North American people themselves. The United States showed its disdain for international law, the UN Charter, and the freedom of peoples.

The PCF and the Communist Party of Cuba welcome the fact that that intervention was widely condemned by states, international organizations, and public opinion. France and Cuba, for example, clearly expressed their condemnation. The two parties call on all democrats to demand the immediate withdrawal of all foreign troops occupying the island and the right of the Grenadian people to choose their own future in complete freedom, without foreign interference.

Fidel Castro said how much he appreciated Georges Marchais' statements on behalf of the French Communists and workers hailing the courage and internationalist solidarity which the Cuban cooperation workers have shown.

Preventing U.S. Military Adventure

The two parties consider that despite the broad deployment of military and economic resources and the various political maneuvers used, the North American Government is not succeeding in attaining the objectives it has set for itself in Central America. Quite the contrary, its whole policy in this region is coming up against the Central American peoples' struggle, strengthened by international solidarity.

The Nicaraguan revolution is being consolidated despite the increased U.S. hostility and the threat of intervention. Supported by a determined people, it is achieving results along the path of democratic, social, economic, and cultural progress. This is costing considerable efforts because of the obstacles that the conservative forces are setting up on its path.

By its support of the revolutionary Somozist gangs headed by the CIA, the United States is taking part in the war operations against Nicaragua. The country is surrounded, the military aggression force has been deployed, considerable numbers of troops have been deployed, and Honduras has been turned into a North American military base.

Georges Marchais and Fidel Castro appeal to all the forces of peace and progress in the world, to all those who, for various motives, support the Nicaraguan people's cause: It is time for active vigilance alongside Nicaragua in view of the threats to it.

Mankind's voice must be raised even more strongly to prevent a U.S. military adventure against free Nicaragua, to thwart the destabilization of the Sandinist revolution and to end the U.S. intervention in Central America.

In El Salvador the dictatorship, which survives only thanks to massive U.S. support, is faced with the advance of the FDR-FMLN patriots, who have taken the political and military initiative.

In expressing their militant solidarity with the Salvadoran patriots, Fidel Castro and Georges Marchais stressed the dangers hanging over that country in that the North American Administration's continuing to prevent any political solution to the conflict and is stepping up the threats of direct military intervention.

In Guatemala, the progressive forces grouped in the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Party are scoring new victories.

The Liberation Struggle Is in Keeping With the Spirit of Our Times

Georges Marchais and Fidel Castro stressed the deep roots of the people's movement in Latin America, whose fundamental causes are age-old exploitation and oppression, hunger, illiteracy, and disease, the terrible scourges of underdevelopment.

Today, as before, it is the imperialist rejection of national and social liberation that leads to intervention and bloodshed: 50,000 people have been murdered in El Salvador since 1979; and 100,000 have died in Guatemala, where the horror has been going on since 1954.

So many crimes and real genocides are bound to arouse the indignation of all those who defend human rights. In this connection, the two parties condemn the selective view of human rights, as have most Western media.

The PCF and the PCC hail the millions of people throughout Latin America who reject the submission and domination imposed on them for decades, with many deaths, suffering, sacrifices, and endemic poverty. They welcome the democratic progress made in many countries on the continent.

Nothing can stop this liberation struggle, because it is just and is in keeping with the spirit of our times.

To all those peoples struggling courageously for democracy, freedom, justice, and independence, the PCF and PCC reaffirm their full and complete solidarity and their intention to continue to work constantly to ensure that the vast and multifaceted solidarity movement increases still further.

The necessary forces exist to defeat Reagan's warlike policy, which is fraught with dangers for peace, provided that all men who love peace, justice, and freedom unite in action.

The talks between the two parties bore witness to their desire to resolve the conflicts in Central America by means of political negotiation, respecting the rights of peoples to independence, sovereignty, self-determination, and noninterference in their affairs.

Toward a Just and Lasting Peace

The PCF and PCC support all initiatives and positive contributions aimed at a just and lasting peace.

They reiterated their resolute support of the Nicaraguan Government's constructive and firm positions and the proposals for political dialogue made by the FDR-FMLN in El Salvador to resolve a conflict that must be resolved if there is to be peace in Central America. They reiterated their support for the Contadora Group's efforts.

The two delegations consider that all states, whatever their social systems, and all peoples on various continents can contribute to a political settlement for peace in Central America by taking action to ensure that these constructive proposals prevail.

The PCF and PCC agreed to continue to work, each in its own way and with its own means, for peace and the recognition of the legitimate rights of peoples.

Fidel Castro reaffirmed Cuba's desire to make every effort to bring about the peaceful resolution of the conflicts in the region.

Georges Marchais indicated that the PCF is taking action to ensure that France, by new initiatives, pursues alone or with other countries its positive action to settle Central America's problems.

Action by the peoples is also vital to bring about disarmament. By deploying new nuclear weapons in Western Europe, the United States has assumed the heavy responsibility for a new escalation in the arms race, which threatens the peace and security of all the peoples of the world.

The two parties advocate an immediate end to this escalation, a negotiated and balanced reduction of all arms, respecting each country's security. They hail as a major event of our time the powerful people's movement for the defense of peace uniting millions of men, women, and young people of all origins and beliefs on all the continents.

Disarmament and Development

They stress, as the Nonaligned Movement has demanded, that it is vital to progress toward disarmament to guarantee mankind's survival, and to ensure that the planet's enormous resources can meet the vast needs of the poorest countries. That is why the two parties note that the struggle for peace and the pressing development needs felt by the majority of mankind are indissolubly linked.

On the 25th anniversary of the Cuban revolution, Georges Marchais expressed to Fidel Castro and the Cuban people the French Communists' profound feelings of friendship and solidarity with socialist Cuba. Hailing the Cuban people's firm desire to defend their revolution and independence, G. Marchais reaffirmed that the French Communists will always stand by them.

He paid tribute to Cuba's active support of the peoples' struggles and its constant action to promote peace, developments, and a new international economic order.

The Cuban revolution, which opened a new era for the peoples of the continent, gives millions of oppressed, hungry, sick, and illiterate the example of its achievements, of social progress, justice, freedom, and dignity.

It is the record and this example that give the Cuban revolution a growing international prestige and make it the target of increased hostility and campaigns of lies by imperialism.

Georges Marchais and Fidel Castro noted with satisfaction that there is a new climate in relations between France and Cuba. There is a broad area of cooperation in the interest of the two countries and peoples in the most varied spheres.

Fidel Castro once again expressed to George Marchais the great respect which the Cuban people and PCC feel for the solidarity that the PCF has maintained over the years with the Cuban people's struggle and for its untiring action for rapprochement between the two peoples.

The two parties reiterated their common will, expressed in the statements of 3 January 1980 and 12 April 1982, to ceaselessly work for peace and disarmament and for the establishment of a new international order based on justice, equality, sovereignty, and mutally advantageous cooperation.

They welcomed the profound agreement on essential questions between the PCF and the PCC and their close relations of friendship and fruitful cooperation.

The two parties decided to strengthen the ties that unite them in the interest of peace, the peoples' liberation struggles, and socialism.

'AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE' TO REOPEN SURINAME FIRM

PA192318 Havana International Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 19 Jan 84

[Text] The Suriname Government, the unions, and the Suralco Company have reached an agreement in principle that will allow the firm to reopen. This has been reported in Paramaribo. The strikers at Suralco and the (Billington) bauxite company have been asked to give their views regarding this agreement. There have been no reports on the contents of the agreement. Suralco hopes to reopen the company on Monday.

COLOMBIA'S BETANCUR ON PARDONS FOR REBEL LEADERS

FL181945 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 18 Jan 84

[Text] Colombian President Belisario Betancur has reiterated that his government is bent on returning peace to the nation, and added that there is a possibility that the government will decree a pardon for guerrilla leaders operating in the country.

At a ceremony to sign the law on the administration of justice, the Colombian president urged guerrillas to put down their weapons and disclosed that there is the possibility that the government will decree a pardon for top guerrilla leaders in order to achieve the country's definite peace.

For its part, the Colombian Peace Commission has given its approval to this pardon, and noted that the measure will help bring a climate of peace, but only as long as the government successfully concludes the process to incorporate guerrillas into civilian life.

REPORTAGE ON ACTIVITIES IN EL SALVADOR

Ex-Official on Elections

PA191523 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 19 Jan 84

[Text] The current electoral campaign in El Salvador lacks both a law to regulate it and a trustworthy electoral registry, (Gregorio Guardado), a former Salvadoran Legislative Assembly leader, has asserted. According to (Guardado), the presidential candidates claim to be genuine representatives of the people, yet they never refer to the country's difficult economic, political, and military crisis in their electoral campaigns.

He recommended that the candidates, particularly Roberto D'Aubuisson and Jose Napoleon Duarte, undergo physical and mental examinations in order to ensure that public positions don't go to unbalanced individuals.

Military Situation

PA191425 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 19 Jan 84

[Text] Today the FMLN announced the capture of an entire Salvadoran Army company in the rural region of Anamoros, La Union Department. According to the source, the officer in charge of this company, Lieutenant (Alfredo Rodriguez), will provide details about the military conditions of some of the Salvadoran regime's troops on Radio Venceremos.

Meanwhile, both the FMLN and the FDR have reiterated that they will not participate in the elections slated for March 1984, inasmuch as they are imposed by the United States, will not resolve the conflict, and will be held in the presence of the death squads and under increasing U.S. interference. Ruben Zamora, Salvador Samayoa, Ana Guadalupe Martinez and Mario Aguinada, members of the two fronts' joint political-diplomatic commission, stressed these points at a news conference in Mexico City.

On another subject, it has been learned that the U.S. Southern Command based in the Panama Canal area has prepared a plan to create a new army in El Salvador made up of 52 counterinsurgency units and 7 rapid reaction battalions. This would raise the number of military troops in that Central American country to 49,800. This is established in a confidential document that circulated in the U.S. Congress last November. The document was prepared by the Pentagon in an effort to facilitate a Salvadoran Army victory over the guerrilla forces before October 1985.

For his part, U.S. Colonel (James Frampton) has admitted that Washington has prepared a broad plan to continue training the Salvadoran regime's troops. He added that every effort will be made to prevent the victory of the patriots in that Central American country.

HOUSING PROBLEM, POLICE ACTION CITED IN PERU

PA191326 Havana International Service in Quechua 2200 GMT 13 Jan 84

[Text] According to Peruvian Housing Minister Javier Velarde, the police will continue to evict those who invade other people's land, as they have already done to a huge number of people who tried to occupy some abandoned warehouses. Many were arrested and others were injured as a result. The injured include elderly people, women, and children.

Lima Mayor Alfonso Barrantes has asked the Peruvian Government to resolve these problems -- that is, to resolve the housing problem for a huge number of people -- on an urgent basis. The government has been paying no attention to these people and doing nothing to resolve this grave problem.

GRENADA

GAIRY ANNOUNCES PLANS TO RETURN TO ISLAND

FL191340 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 19 Jan 84

[Text] Former Grenada Prime Minister Sir Eric Gairy says he will return to the island on Saturday, but will not be a candidate in future elections. In an interview in yesterday's editions of THE NEW YORK TIMES newspaper, he said he will become a political consultant and be the power behind the prime minister if his Grenada United Labor Party wins the elections. The former prime minister said he will urge the United States and Britain to maintain a presence on Grenada if his party wins.

BRITISH PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION ARRIVES

FL191602 Bridgetown CANA in English 1425 GMT 19 Jan 84

[Text] St George's, Grenada, Jan 19 (CANA) -- A seven-member British Parliamentary delegation arrived in Grenada last night on what one official described as a fact-finding visit. The parliamentarians, who are members of the House of Commons Select Committee on Foreign Affairs, will meet Governor-General Sir Paul Scoon and members of the Advisory Council, set up to rule Grenada after last October's U.S.-led invasion until general elections are held later this year. Members of the delegation said the group will report back to the House of Commons on its return to London. Hopefully, the government will take note of the recommendations, he said. The Britons leave Sunday.

SCOTLAND YARD OFFICIAL TO INVESTIGATE DETAINEES

FL192226 Bridgetown CANA in English 1937 GMT 19 Jan 84

[By Reudon Eversley]

[Text] St George's, Grenada, Jan 19 (CANA) -- An official of Scotland Yard, Britain's ace crime fighting police department, is coming to Grenada to assist local investigators in bringing charges against persons detained in connection with the gunning down of Prime Minister Maurice Bishop, three cabinet ministers, and several others in last October's military coup, the head of the interim government said today.

Nicholas Brathwaite, chairman of the two-month old Advisory Council, said he was unhappy at the delay in bringing charges against the 32 detainees, including ex-Deputy Prime Minister Bernard Coard, though he concluded that the investigators had a tough job on their hands. Brathwaite said all the government was doing was expressing this concern. It had no intention of interfering with the work of the investigators or the office of the director of public prosecutions, he added. "When the people will be charged is a matter for the director of public prosecutions and the investigating teams. No government that is democratic has any right to interfere with the investigations," Brathwaite told the Caribbean News Agency (CANA).

He could not say when the Scotland Yard official -- who was not named -- would arrive, but a well-placed source said he should come in sometime next week.

It was a bitter leadership feud between Coard and Bishop that sparked the unrest culminating in the overthrow of the People's Revolutionary Government last October 19. U.S.-led forces intervened six days later to restore order.

Brathwaite said he did not think there was any problem in getting evidence and laying charges again those who had pulled the triggers but the case was more complex. "... What happened on October 19 was a complex situation where it was generally felt that what we were having was a political struggle and the instigators of the crime were the ones who really took the initiative and instructed the perpetrators who carried out the actual act," the chairman said. He added: "I'm sure its extremely difficult for the investigating team to get the kind of evidence that would link the political decision to the criminal execution of the plot."

Killed with Bishop were Foreign Minister Unison Whiteman, Education Minister Jacqueline Creft, and Housing Minister Norris Bain, among others. Besides Coard, others detained at the top security Richmond Hill Prison, overlooking St George's are ex-Army Commander General Hudson Austin, the 15 other members of his short-lived military junta, and officials of Bishop's New Jewel Movement (NJM).

Brathwaite said Barbados had offered to asist in the prosecution of the detainees when charges are laid. This step was still some way off, he said.

INTERIM GOVERNMENT ANTICIPATES NEW IMF DEAL

FL191614 Bridgetown CANA in English 1452 GMT 19 Jan 84

[By Reudon Eversley]

[Text] St George's, Grenada, Jan 19 (CANA) -- Grenada's interim government is hoping to conclude negotiations with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) by month-end on a new one-year economic assistance programme for this financially-strapped Caribbean island, a top official said today.

Nicholas Brathwaite, chairman of the two-month old Advisory Council, said an IMF negotiating team is expected here anytime now to follow up preliminary discussions started last month on the proposed standby credit facility. "At this time, I can't say how much money we'll get, but we think from the investigations they have carried out that we are likely to get a favourable response," Brathwaite told the Caribbean News Agency (CANA). "We were given the assurance that once negotiations are completed by the end of January, the approval should be received by the end of April," he added.

The new credit arrangement will replace a 14.1 million dollar (U.S.) three-year extended facility which the former People's Revolutionary Government (PRG) signed with the Washington-based lending agency last August. The programme was suspended by the IMF following last October's bloody overthrow of the PRG by the Grenadian Army, which prompted the intervention of U.S.-led forces.

The interim government, installed after the intervention, said the decision to cut off the funds has served to compound a "severe liquidity position" it inherited from the deposed left-wing administration.

Brathwaite said details of the package will be worked out with the IMF officials, who will then pass on their recommendations to the agency's board of governors.

"It is the IMF governors who, in the final analysis, take the decision as to if you will get any money and how much," the Advisory Council Chairman said. The provisional loan was intended to help Grenada reduce its financial imbalances, strengthen the government's balance of payments position, and build up its foreign assets.

GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCES PREPARATIONS FOR ELECTIONS

FL191741 Bridgetown CANA in English 1703 GMT 19 Jan 84

[By Reudon Eversley]

[Text] St George's, Grenada, Jan 19 (CANA) -- Enumeration of voters for Grenada's forthcoming general elections will begin in all 15 constituencies on March 1, an official announcement said today. The interim government has not yet pinpointed any particular month for holding the poll, which will return Grenada to elected constitutional rule after close to five years of left-wing revolution.

"The interim government has clearly stated time and time again that elections would be held within a year. Our position has not changed," Advisory Council Chairman, Nicholas Brathwaite, told the Caribbean News Agency (CANA). However, Brathwaite said a factor which would determine the actual date of the election would be the completion of all the necessary arrangements, including the process of enumeration, compilation of a voters' list, and identification of polling stations.

Barbados is assisting Grenada's newly established electoral office with the preparations. It will be first general election here since 1976. Today's announcement said the authorities were in the process of selecting for training the registration officers and enumerators for the exercise.

Political parties have not yet publicly launched their campaigns, but informed sources say activists of the various groups are hard at work behind the scenes, mainly in the rural areas, courting the electorate. "The political parties are free to campaign. The interim government wants them to campaign," Brathwaite told CANA. He added: "In fact, the interim government thinks it is the responsibility of the political parties to arouse the people's interest in the future development of their country and to help them to recapture confidence in the democratic political process."

Westminster-type democracy ceased to exist here following the March 13, 1979, leftist coup that ousted the elected government of eccentric Prime Minister Sir Eric Gairy. The People's Revolutionary Government, which ruled Grenada from them until its bloody removal from power by the Army last October, concentrated on developing what it dubbed a system of people's democracy.

At least one party, Gairy's Grenada United Labour Party (GULP) which held nine of the 15 seats in the 1979 Parliament, has so far announced it will field candidates in all 15 constituencies. Other groups, including the Grenada National Party (GNP) of ex-premier Herbert Blaize and the left-wing New Jewel Movement (NJM) which constituted the revolutionary government, are yet to declare their hand.

Workmen are busy refurbishing the House of Assembly to get it in shape for the resumption of sittings after the election which is expected in the latter half of 1984.

JAMAICA

SEAGA DISCUSSES DEBT WITH U.S. CONGRESSMEN

FL191738 Bridgetown CANA in English 1653 GMT 19 Jan 84

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, Jan 19 (CANA) -- Jamaica's prime minister, Edward Seaga, has told a group of visiting U.S. congressmen he fears for the future of Latin America unless the region is granted concessions on the repayment of its mountainous debt, the GLEANER newspaper said today. "I fear for the future of the region and the upheavals that may occur if it is not possible to find a way to extend the debt to provide a moratorium to cushion the interest rates, and to do whatever is possible to enable the countries to have a period of repayment which can be met along with the adjustments that they have undertaken as a result of the down-turn in internal trade," quoted the prime minister as telling the congressmen. Latin Americans' debt of about 310 billion dollars (U.S.) represents nearly half of the combined Third World debt load, and many countries in the region find it almost impossible to meet payments both on interest and principal.

The tree-member fact-finding mission from the House Way and Means Committee, headed by Florida Democrat Claude Pepper, has been travelling through Latin America and the Caribbean. The congressmen met Tuesday with Seaga and his foreign minister, Hugh Shearer.

Seaga's remarks on the region's debt problem were the second in a week by a senior Jamaica government minister. Last weekend, the Labour Minister, J.A.G. Smith, spoke of the "redistribution of poverty" and called on internal bankers to take a cut in interest or watch the region lurch further into crisis and create "a climate to make these countries willing and able to accept communist ideologies."

Seaga, who is Washington's closest ally among the English-speaking countries of the region, noted the dismal economic situation Latin America has had to contend with in the face of international recession. And he told the congressmen: "I fear to say that the worst is yet to come because to the extent that these countries have managed to survive the first year or so (of drastic adjustments) by special arrangements, IMF (International Monetary Fund) bail-outs and so on, they are not going to be able to continue that pattern of a net outflow in terms of debt service." Outflows for servicing Latin America's debts last year were of the order of 30 billion dollars (U.S.). Over 90 percent of the debt is short and medium-term loans from commercial banks. "It presents an awesome picture that is frightening because it is not possible to see a way as to how short-term or medium-term debts bearing commercial rates of interest can be serviced without severe dislocations to the economy of those countries which have that characteristic," Seaga said.

The Jamaica prime minister said that providing aid to the countries of the region just to have them pass it back to the industrialised world in commercial bank payments was a zero benefit. He suggested that a good deal of the solution to the problem "will depend upon the extent to which the IMF and the World Bank are seen as vehicles through which recovery can take place and a new approach made to current debts" -- a position he regretted had not so far gained the fancy of the developed nations. They, led by the United States, argue that recovery was on the way in the major Western economies, and this would mean a rejuvenation of world trade that would benefit the developing nations.

However, Seaga told the congre smen that recovery would not be fast enough to quickly pull the hemisphere out of its problems and for the countries of the region to meet their present debt obiligations. In this regard, the Jamaica prime minister said that continued down-turn was the expected feature of the Latin American economy over the next few years, circumscribing the ability of the region to import, which in turn would mean "a severe fall in the employment capability of your country, which is the supplier of most exports to the region."

REPORTAGE ON BAUXITE STRIKE, RELATED EVENTS

Some Workers Return

FL191332 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 19 Jan 84

[Text] Workers at one of Suriname's main bauxite plants returned to work yesterday providing the first sign of a possible end to antigovernment protests that have closed down the vital industry for the past month. An undetermined number of workers at the plant 56 miles east of Paramaribo loaded bauxite on a freighter bound for Venezuela.

Political observers say there are signs that the wave of strikes is diminishing and bauxite workers might return to work as early as next Monday. Some 5,000 workers walked off their jobs December 19th to protest a tax increase and the 4-year military rule of Lieutenant Colonel Desi Bouterse.

Mass Rally Called

PA191553 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1520 GMT 19 Jan 84

[Text] The Hague, 19 Jan (LATIN-REUTER) -- The Netherlands news agency ANP today reported that a massive rally has been called for tomorrow in Paramaribo, capital of Suriname, to protest the military government of this former Netherlands colony.

Leaflets that were distributed in the city yesterday called on the people to quit work tomorrow and to take part in the rally. ANP said, citing sources in Paramaribo, that it was not clear who had distributed the unsigned leaflets in several offices of the city.

Last week, leaflets were distributed in the capital calling for solidarity with the bauxite industry workers who were on strike to demand an end to Desi Bouterse's 4-year-old military regime and to support free elections.

A month-long strike has paralyzed the bauxite industry, which provides 80 percent of Suriname's foreign currency income.

The military authorities returned approximately 60 buses and licenses to their private owners yesterday after having confiscated them a few hours earlier when the drivers did not show up for work in a measure of support for the bauxite industry workers.

ANP said that the bank employees had ended their strike and that the situation in Paramaribo yesterday was calm. Electric power supplies were down 20 percent due to the strikes, and some companies were affected by the lack of electricity.

'Disruption' Reported

LD191812 Hilversum Domestic Service in Dutch 1635 GMT 19 Jan 84

[From the "The World on Thursday" program presented by (Hans Wijnands) and (Ben Koolster)]

[Excerpt] [Wijnands] We start with Suriname, or, to be more precise, close to Suriname -- (San Laurent) in French Guiana. Our correspondent Gert van Brakel is there.

[Van Brakel] We heard this morning that there was a fair amount of disruption in Suriname. Well, this did not prove to be as bad as expected. There has been no question of shots, as is already known. There is also no question of Bouterse being dead. He was seen jogging yesterday evening at 1830.

What has been happening, in fact, is a coincidence of two events: On the one hand, the mention or the wish of a large number of people, perhaps; and on the other hand, a disruption of electrical power or of the telephone system which, perhaps, is not accidental. I learned that this was caused by a ham radio in (Albina), about 800 meters from here across the border river, who tried to paralyze everything. This was quickly discovered. Communications are now back to their high level.

Agreement Reached

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[Text] In Suriname, government, labor unions, and the SURALCO [Suriname Aluminum Company] bauxite company have reached an agreement in principle which may lead on Monday to a return to work after several weeks of strike action.

Reportedly a majority of SURALCO workers favor the terms including payment of 1,200 Suriname guilders to strikers over the period they were out. Of this, 800 guilders is an advance to tide them over. No more has been heard about the strikers' political demands: an end to military rule and a return to democracy.